EXHIBIT 1

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL 0003



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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY - TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VIDEO RECORDINGS
of
Public Chapter No. 2 House Bill No. 3
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1	
2	INDEX
3	PAGE
4	
5	Senate Judiciary
6	
7	February 6, 2023 30 Senate Floor Session 7th Legislative Day
8	
9	
10	February 9, 2023 32 Senate Floor Session 8th Legislative Day
11	
12	
13	February 23, 2023 62 House Floor Session 9th Legislative Day
14	
15	
16	March 2, 2023 99 Senate Floor Session 13th Legislative Day
17	
18	
19	
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1
 2
              IN THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
                 TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 3
                       January 31, 2023
 4
 5
 6
                (WHEREUPON, On the above date, there
 7
    came up for consideration in the Senate Judiciary
 8
    Committee of the Tennessee General Assembly, Senate
 9
    Bill 0003, sponsored by Senator Johnson and others.
10
    Discussion pertaining to this bill was as follows):
11
12
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Leader
13
    Johnson, you're up and you're first on the calendar.
14
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you,
15
    Mr. Chairman and Members. Good afternoon.
16
    good to be back with you. It's good to be your
17
    first bill of the year. Senate Bill 0003, I'm here
18
    to present. There's an amendment that makes the
19
    bill, Mr. Chairman.
20
                If we could get a motion to get the
21
   bill properly before us.
2.2
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Senator
23
    Stevens makes a motion on the bill. Senator Rose
24
    seconds it.
25
                Is there any discussion on getting the
```

```
1
   bill in proper form?
 2
                UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Move the
 3
    amendment.
 4
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Move the
 5
               I Have a second also from Rose. We need
    amendment.
 6
    to vote on a bill being in front of us and then the
 7
    amendment.
                So all in favor of the bill -- well,
 8
 9
    I'm sorry -- the amendment. All in favor of the
10
    amendment, which is drafting code 3058, say aye.
11
                          (Collectively) Aye.
                MEMBERS:
12
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Oppose,
13
    nays.
14
                MEMBERS: (Collectively) No audible
15
    response.
16
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Ayes
17
    have it.
            It's on the bill.
18
                Senator -- Leader Johnson, do you want
19
    to describe the amendment that makes the bill?
20
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you,
21
   Mr. Chairman. I'd be glad to.
22
                Members, Senate Bill 0003 as amended
2.3
    would clarify current law by requiring that
2.4
    adult-oriented performances may only be held in
25
    age-restricted venues and may never be held in
```

1 public -- on public property. 2 Mr. Chairman, under current law, 3 businesses that predominantly provide adult-oriented entertainment must be licensed and 4 5 age restricted to prevent children from attending 6 and being present when the adult-themed 7 entertainment is taking place. 8 The bill that's before you now simply 9 clarifies that if this type of adult-oriented 10 entertainment occurs in locations that are not 11 required to be regulated under the current adult 12 entertainment law, because the adult entertainment 13 is not the predominant business, say for example, 14 if this entertainment is taking place in a 15 restaurant, then that business must ensure that the 16 location is age restricted and that children are 17 not allowed to view the performance. 18 I want to be very clear, Mr. Chairman 19 and Members, the bill only applies to performances 2.0 that are considered harmful to minors. I'd like to 2.1 pause there for a moment, because this is not a 22 newly defined term. The term "harmful to minors" 2.3 currently exists in our obscenity statute. 2.4 in current law, and I'd would like to read from 25 that, if I could, very briefly, Mr. Chairman.

1 In 39-17-901, under "definitions," 2 'harmful to minors' means that the quality of any 3 description or representation, in whatever form, of 4 nudity, sexual excitement, sexual conduct, 5 excessive violence... abuse when the matter or 6 performance would be found" -- this is an existing 7 code -- "would be found by the average person 8 applying contemporary community standards to appeal 9 predominantly to the prurient interests or shameful 10 or morbid interests of minors." 11 Mr. Chairman, that language that I just 12 read to you exists currently in our code, and it's 13 in the obscenity statute. And, again, this cite is 14 39-17-901. 15 The bill I'm presenting before you 16 today simply says that that type of entertainment 17 that is already defined in statute cannot take 18 place on public property, nor can it take place in 19 a private venue where children are present. 20 Mr. Chairman, it doesn't ban that type 2.1 of entertainment. It simply says it can't be done 22 on public property, and if it's going to be done in a private venue, then you have to ensure that 2.3 2.4 children are not present. That's the bill. That's 25 what the bill does, Mr. Chairman. This is a

```
1
    commonsense safety bill for the children, and I'd
 2
    appreciate the committee's support.
 3
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Do any
 4
    committee members have any questions at this time?
 5
                I see none. I will say one thing and
 6
    kind of digress just a minute.
 7
                I'm a little bit old-fashioned -- and
8
    if you'll hold your hands down, I think I can see
   people okay.
 9
                I was brought up where men don't wear
10
11
    hats inside a building. Thank you.
12
                Also, we don't allow signs to be held
13
    up or distractions from the audience. Having said
14
    that, now, senators, do you have a question,
15
    please --
16
                Pardon me?
17
                SENATOR LAMAR: (Response off
18
   microphone.)
19
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Yes. Go
20
    ahead. Feel free. You got the floor.
21
                SENATOR LAMAR:
                                Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22
                Hello, Leader. I wanted to ask a few
2.3
    questions for clarification. It sounded like based
2.4
    on current law we already have a very clear
25
    definition of obscenity. Is this really creating a
```

```
1
    new definition? And also, who would this bill
 2.
    punish? Would it punish the business or would it
 3
    punish the performer?
 4
                SENATOR JOHNSON: I will answer your
 5
    second question first, Senator, and thank you for
 6
    the question. The criminal penalty -- which I'm
 7
    glad you brought that up because I should have read
    that into the record.
 8
                There is a first offense violation
 9
10
    that's in the bill before you now and it would be
11
    applied to the performer, the person who is
12
    performing the adult-themed or the sexually graphic
13
    entertainment. And the first offense would be a
14
    Class A misdemeanor. The second or subsequent
15
    offense would be a Class E felony.
16
                And in terms of newly defined terms,
17
    again, much of this is in existing code relative to
18
    "adult cabaret entertainment" -- is the way it's
19
    defined in existing code. We did the
2.0
    cross-reference relative to the "harmful to
2.1
   minors." And as I mentioned in 39-17-901, to make
22
    sure that we were being consistent with what is
2.3
    already defined in code as harmful to minors and
2.4
    it's considered obscene.
25
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Chairman
```

```
1
    Lamar, do you have a follow-up question? Go ahead.
 2
                SENATOR LAMAR: Yes.
                                       Just two more
 3
    questions if you don't mind my indulgence, please,
    if that's okay.
 4
 5
                My next question is can you -- it
 6
    sounds like -- I haven't heard of any examples of
 7
    this being an issue. Could you kind of talk about
 8
    where this problem that we're trying to solve
 9
    derived from or any examples of issues that have
10
    arisen to bring forth this bill?
11
                SENATOR JOHNSON: Certainly. There have
12
    been a number of instances over the last year, year
13
    and a half, maybe two years where a video has
14
    surfaced of performances or some type of
15
    entertainment taking place in the presence of
16
    children, perhaps on public property or maybe in a
17
    private venue where children were present that I
18
    think any reasonable person, upon watching some of
19
    that video, would say that's in violation of the
2.0
    obscenity statute that we already have in current
2.1
    code.
22
                Perhaps you didn't receive the calls,
2.3
    Senator, but I know I received hundreds of calls,
2.4
    e-mails from outraged parents that this type of
25
    performance was taking place in front of kids.
```

1 That is what led me and the house sponsor to begin 2 investigating this. We had some conversations with 3 district attorneys, law enforcement relative to the 4 existing statute and, in fact, identified something 5 of a loophole. 6 As I said in my opening comments, we 7 have adult-themed establishments, venues where 8 adult-themed entertainment takes place. They exist 9 here in Nashville. They are in some of your larger 10 cities, and they are very heavily regulated and 11 they must be age restricted. They don't allow 12 children in to witness this type of entertainment. 13 But, in fact, there's a bit of a loophole in our 14 law that would allow that type of entertainment to 15 take place in public settings, and that's what 16 we're trying to clarify. We're just simply trying 17 to apply the same standards to this adult-themed 18 sexually explicit entertainment that can take place 19 in these heavily regulated establishments. 2.0 the world would we allow that same type of 2.1 entertainment to take place in a public park or in 22 some other area where children are present? 2.3 CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Chairman 2.4 Lamar? 25 SENATOR LAMAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

```
1
                Last question. It gives -- I feel like
 2
    the law is a little murky because when I think
 3
    about -- when I think about concerts, WWE
 4
    performances where people dress up in costumes,
 5
    they are pretty bare in their clothing. We take
 6
    our kids to concerts, major artists who perform
 7
    where the dancers are wearing clothing that can be
 8
    considered revealing.
                How does this law differentiate from
 9
10
    those and how did -- you know, because I feel like,
11
    based on what you're saying, it could apply to
12
    everyday performances that we see all the time
13
    where people are dressed. But it sounds like this
14
    law is up to an individual's discretion on what
15
    they consider appropriate and what they consider
16
    not.
17
                So how do we differentiate in this
18
    particular law or how do we allow people who are
19
    entertainers to continue to entertain, but some of
20
    the things that they wear that we think is
2.1
    perfectly appropriate as parents not fall in this
22
    law?
2.3
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Leader
2.4
    Johnson?
25
                SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you,
```

1 Mr. Chairman. 2 Well, I will refer you again to the 3 existing statute where the obscenity definitions 4 are found, 39-17-901 -- and I haven't read all of 5 it, but certainly anyone who is watching can go 6 back and look at existing code. And specifically, 7 with the "harmful to minors" language that I 8 referenced earlier, which is what this bill is 9 dealing with, only when kids are present, "harmful 10 to minors" means that quality of any description or 11 representation of whatever form of nudity, sexual 12 excitement, sexual conduct, excessive violence, 13 abuse would be found by the average person applying 14 contemporary community standards to appeal 15 predominantly to the prurient, shameful, or morbid 16 interest of minors. 17 Now, you mentioned several things, 18 You mentioned WWE. I've heard other Senator. 19 people refer to cheerleaders or bachelorette 20 parties on Broadway. I think that this language is 21 pretty clear at what we're trying to get at, and it 22 is blatantly sexually explicit entertainment 2.3 simulating sex acts. Things that I think any 2.4 reasonable person as the statute defines here that 25 any reasonable person would look at and see and

1 deem that to be inappropriate. 2 Now, as with any law we pass up here, 3 Members, certainly, there will be prosecutorial 4 discretion, and I agree with Senator Lamar what 5 might be considered to be offensive to one person 6 might not be offensive to another person. 7 certainly understand that. That's why we have DAs; 8 that's why we have law enforcement; that's why we 9 have people to make the appropriate decisions. 10 And in the event that one of these 11 instances led to a prosecution, then it would 12 ultimately go to a jury of their peers, which they 13 would then make that determination. So that's why 14 we cross-referenced the existing statute that has 15 been on the books for decades -- many, many 16 decades -- relative to obscenity. 17 CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): 18 Lamar, would you like to ask? 19 SENATOR LAMAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 20 CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): At this 2.1 time, we have two witnesses that's going to come up. 22 London Starbuck is going to come up and talk for the 2.3 And then after that person comes up, David 2.4 Taylor is going to come up. Only one person at the 25 witness table. The rules were set last week on any

```
1
    bills that come up, equal number of witnesses.
 2
                So, Landon Starbuck, where are you?
 3
                We're going to go out of session.
 4
                Please identify yourself, who you're
 5
    with if you're with anybody, turn the mic on, make
 6
    sure -- and speak into the microphone.
 7
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): I'm Landon
 8
    Starbuck.
               I'm here today as an advocate for
 9
    children harmed by child sexualization and
10
    exploitation. I'm a mother of three and the founder
11
    of Freedom Forever, which combats all forms of child
12
    exploitation. There's a pandemic of child sexual
13
    abuse in America where the demand to sexually abuse
14
    and exploit children has never been greater.
15
    here today to educate on how early sexualization and
16
    exposure to explicit adult content via adult
17
    entertainment harms children. It grooms them into
18
    accepting adult sexual behavior as normal, healthy,
19
    and even celebrated while it encourages them to
2.0
    simulate and participate in high-risk sexual
2.1
    behaviors.
22
                When a child is sexualized, they don't
2.3
    just lose their innocence and childhood, but the
2.4
    sexual desensitization they experience renders them
25
   more vulnerable to sexual predation as they are
```

1 groomed into accepting being sexualized. 2 Allowing and normalizing the 3 sexualization of children empowers child predators 4 and increases the demand to exploit and sexually 5 abuse children. Child sex trafficking surveyor, 6 leader, Dr. Jennisue Jessen shared the following 7 "I learned from the ages of 4 to 17 statement. 8 that those who exposed children to sexually 9 explicit material do so with a very clear purpose 10 Through the sexually explicit images and 11 behavior I was forced to see or watch, sexual 12 contact was normalized. The sexual acts expected 13 of me were taught and shame-based secrets were 14 created that distanced me from those who might have 15 protected me. The graphic images seared into my 16 brain then became my reality when the perpetrators 17 acted on what they had shown me. My story is not 18 unique." 19 Dr. Jessen's lifelong experience and 20 expertise on preventing sexual abuse is counsel we 2.1 should heed. 22 This past year, I've been exposing this 2.3 new toxic trend of exposing children to adult 2.4 sexually charged entertainment. Many child 25 protective advocates have discovered a pattern with

```
1
    these events popping up all over the state, all
 2
    over the country. The pervasive themes we
 3
    documented include subjecting children to grown
 4
    adults stripping clothing off, rubbing their
 5
    genitalia, simulating sex positions, spreading
 6
    their legs in front of children, making sexually
 7
    charged comments about their genitalia, grinding,
 8
    gyrating, spanking, and exposing their
 9
    undergarments while knowing their children are
10
    present and watching. These things have occurred
11
    while being called "family friendly" and marketed
12
    as such.
13
                We don't need a PhD to tell us that
14
    children mimic the behaviors they are exposed to.
15
    Any parent in this room can testify to that. So
16
    when children are legally permitted to sit and
17
    watch an adult strip off pieces of clothing and
18
    simulate sexual behavior as an audience
19
    thunderously claps and rewards the performer with a
2.0
    monetary gift of dollar bills, what does that child
2.1
    learn?
22
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
                                                 Thirty
2.3
    seconds.
2.4
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): They learn that
25
    sexuality is a vehicle for attention, affirmation,
```

```
1
    and money. You can get paid to take off your
 2
    clothes and sexualizing yourself. People will love
 3
    you for sexualizing yourself to please them.
 4
    no wonder we have skyrocketing mental health crisis
 5
    amongst our confused and vulnerable youth with more
 6
    sexual exploitation crimes reported than ever
 7
             The harm on children is calculable, not
    before.
 8
    subjective. It's either right or wrong morally and
 9
    is either tolerated or not tolerated by the law.
10
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
11
    you very much. We have limited witnesses to three
12
              That was described last year.
13
                Sir, if you raise your hand one more
14
    time you're going to be escorted out of this room.
15
                Any members have any questions?
16
                Chairman [sic] Lamar?
17
                SENATOR LAMAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
18
                So this bill is talking about public
19
    places but everything you've talked about --
20
    currently, the current law protects against this,
2.1
    so how is this bill going to help you even further?
22
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): Well,
2.3
    unfortunately there's different subjective
2.4
    interpretations of the existing obscenity law and
25
    there is clarification needed to further protect
```

```
1
    children because the risk to them has never been
 2
    greater.
 3
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Chairman
 4
    Lamar?
 5
                SENATOR LAMAR: Do you feel like parents
 6
    are not smart enough to protect their children?
 7
    AKA, if they wanted to take them to one of these
 8
    shows, do you think that they are not smart enough
 9
    to know the difference between something that is
10
    appropriate or not appropriate? Are we trying to
11
   make decisions for parents with this bill?
12
    what you're saying?
13
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): I think the
14
    responsibility is on parents when they see.
15
    moment they see an adult spreading their legs and
16
    rubbing their genitalia in front of their child,
17
    that's where their parental rights end and that's
18
    where a crime is committed.
19
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Senator
2.0
    Lamar?
21
                SENATOR LAMAR: Where are you seeing
22
    this going down?
2.3
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): This has been
    all over the state documented. I've documented it.
2.4
25
    It's been in the mainstream media outlets. It's
```

```
1
    been all across our country.
                SENATOR LAMAR: Where in Tennessee --
 2
 3
    can you give me a specific example --
 4
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): Boro Pride even
 5
    recently happened.
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Ma'am,
 6
 7
    ma'am. Let the senator ask her question.
8
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): Oh, okay.
 9
                SENATOR LAMAR: I was asking,
10
    specifically in Tennessee, can you give me a
11
    specific example of where and what was going on that
12
    you are saying these acts are going on?
13
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): Yes. Boro
14
    Pride recently happened in Murfreesboro, Tennessee,
15
    where an adult performer was talking about their
16
    tits and rubbing their genitalia, grinding on the
17
    ground and spreading their legs in front of
18
    children.
               That was one of them.
19
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Chairman
2.0
    Lamar?
21
                SENATOR LAMAR: So at a private event,
22
    that's an event that someone has discretion to
2.3
    decide to go to. So why do you feel that it is your
2.4
    responsibility to stop individuals from exercising
25
    their freedom to go see a show they choose to go to?
```

```
1
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): Oh, it's not my
 2
    decision at all. It's the individual's decision.
 3
    But we have laws. We have current existing statutes
 4
    that have to be implemented and followed.
 5
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Chairman
 6
    Lamar?
 7
                SENATOR LAMAR:
                                Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
                                                 I got
 9
    it.
10
                Chairman Roberts?
11
                SENATOR ROBERTS:
                                  Thank you.
                                               I have a
12
    question for Landon, but I'm going to reference
13
    Senator Lamar, Tennessee Tech, August of this past
14
    year.
15
                So on Tennessee Tech's campus, a public
16
    university, there was a show that performed at -- I
17
    believe it was called the Backdoor Theater, and you
18
    had posted a. video of this and I quess what I
19
    wanted to do was to give you an opportunity, and I
20
    apologize if it's graphic, but children were giving
21
   money to the performers. And I'm wondering if you
22
    could just -- why are children giving money to a
2.3
               What was the performer doing that the
    performer?
2.4
    child was giving money to them for?
25
    ///
```

```
1
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
 2
    Ms. Starbuck, you are recognized.
 3
                WITNESS (Ms. Starbuck): Thank you.
                I'm not sure the children are aware
 4
 5
    what is going on; so this is the problem. They are
 6
    seeing adults clap every time an article of
 7
    clothing is removed, the adults are thunderously
 8
    clapping. And so they are making associations
 9
    seeing that when you take your clothes off, you're
10
    rewarded with money and people clap for you, and
11
    that is really -- that's the sexual, you know,
12
    harms that are being caused here by witnessing
13
    something, even if it's not necessary explicit in
14
    that particular moment. But continuing that
15
    behavior is sending that message to children and
16
    its normalizing that sexual exploitation.
17
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Chairman
18
    Roberts?
19
                SENATOR ROBERTS:
                                  Thank you.
20
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Anybody
21
    else have any questions for this witness?
22
                Seeing none. Thank you for your time.
2.3
                Now we have -- David Taylor is going to
2.4
    be up here.
25
                David, you have three minutes. We will
```

```
1
    keep a clock and let you know. Introduce yourself
 2
    and tell us who you're with.
 3
                WITNESS (Mr. Taylor): Thank you,
 4
   Mr. Chairman. I'm David Taylor. I'm co-owner of
    four businesses in Nashville. They are welcoming to
 5
 6
    everyone but cater predominantly to the LGBTQ+
 7
    community. My businesses alone have contributed
   more than $13 million to the state in the form of
 8
 9
    sales and liquor taxes since we opened. And each
10
    year more than 200 people made all or part of their
11
    livings from our businesses, including 13 full-time
12
    and more than 60 quest drag performers with a total
13
    annual payroll of $3 million.
14
                We're just one of many such businesses
15
    in the state. We're proud of ore performers.
16
    Seven have been cast on the national television
17
    show, RuPaul's Drag Race, with two placing in the
18
    top three of their season.
19
                Our shows are fun, lively, campy,
20
    theatrical, clever, dramatic, enjoyous [sic], but
2.1
    never of a prurient nature; and our performers are
22
    certainly not adult cabaret performers.
2.3
                We know this because we have a
2.4
    Tennessee liquor license and are bound by the
25
    Tennessee liquor laws. These laws are aggressively
```

2

4

5

8

1 enforced by the Alcoholic Beverage Commission and prohibit nudity as well as simulated sexual acts 3 and other lewd behaviors. In our more than 20 years in business, we have not received a citation for one of our drag performers. In short, the 6 Tennessee ABC has never viewed our performers as 7 cabaret or adult performers. With two decades of monitoring our 9 shows this operation -- in operations is proof. 10 Another business of ours offers a downtown bus tour 11 hosted by drag performers, and it's frustrating to 12 us that a fully costumed drag queen seen through a 13 bus window lip-syncing Tina Turner might be charged 14 under this bill, especially since none of our 15 performers on this bus has ever shown any more skin 16 than a Titans cheerleader on a Sunday afternoon. 17 This bill places male and female 18 impersonation in the category of strippers, go-go 19 dancers, and exotic dancers, and that's the 2.0 problem. The last three, the dancers, are all 2.1 related to behavior. Impersonation is solely based 22 on the choice of clothing by a human being. What 2.3 someone wears, their outfit, the costume, their 2.4 makeup, that defines a male or female impersonator, 25 and we're -- we're adding that to a list of

```
1
    unacceptable behaviors that are longstanding.
 2
                And so what else might that include?
 3
    Is it the group of birthday girls in Memphis that
 4
    decide to dress like Elvis for a night and dance on
 5
    the public street or megastar Harry Styles when he
 6
    performs in Knoxville in a dress? Our theaters,
 7
    TPAC, when they perform "Hairspray", "Chicago", or
 8
    "Mrs. Doubtfire," could people be arrested and
 9
    charged for that?
10
                If all impersonators are labeled adult
11
    cabaret performers, how does that impact liquor
12
    laws and my ability to operate the same as I have
13
    for the past 20 years? In so many of our states,
14
    hotels, and restaurants offer popular drag brunches
15
    as tourist draws.
16
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Thirty
17
    seconds.
18
                WITNESS (Mr. Taylor): They happen
19
    every -- in every one of our major cities and there
2.0
    are at least ten in Nashville alone. Are their
21
    performers subject to arrest and fines, even if a
22
    minor walks by and sees the performance of a Dolly
2.3
    Parton impersonator doing "9 to 5." And I think
2.4
    Dolly Parton even says she's a female impersonator.
25
    So, you know, I'm not sure about that.
```

```
1
                So, you know, when Governor Lee talks
 2
    about a return to civility, which I certainly
 3
    applaud, I believe in being civil and welcoming to
 4
    all Tennesseans. But this legislation to me isn't
 5
    about civility or protecting children. It's about
 6
    curtailing business and the free expression of our
 7
    citizens with a giant can of worms in my mind about
 8
    interpretation and enforcement and so I ask that
 9
    you oppose this bill.
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
10
11
        We allowed you to run over, but that's -- you
12
    weren't finished and I could tell you weren't.
13
                Do we have any questions from the
14
    panel?
15
                Seeing none, thank you for coming and
16
    thank you for your testimony.
17
                WITNESS (Mr. Taylor): Thank you.
18
    Appreciate your service.
19
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): We are
2.0
    now back in session.
21
                Is there any comments or questions to
22
    the sponsor of the bill?
2.3
                Oh, Senator Roberts -- chairman
2.4
    Roberts?
25
                SENATOR ROBERTS: Thank you,
```

```
1
    Mr. Chairman. I have a question for the sponsor,
 2
    please.
 3
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE): Go
 4
    ahead.
 5
                SENATOR ROBERTS: In the previous
 6
    testimony, there was kind of a list of things
 7
    that -- that -- are these things that are going to
 8
    be illegal under this bill? Because in my reeding
 9
    of the bill as amended, I don't see that these
10
    things are illegal.
11
                Could you share your insight on that,
12
    please?
13
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
                                                 Thank
14
    you.
15
                Leader Johnson?
16
                SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you,
17
    Mr. Chairman.
18
                     The gentleman who testified just
19
    most recently, it was a gross mischaracterization
2.0
    of the bill. And I would encourage anyone who is
21
    watching at home or here today to be aware of that.
22
    He mentioned several hypothetical examples of
2.3
    someone, a female dressed as Elvis or someone
2.4
    dressed as Dolly Parton. I don't know how I can be
25
    more clear, Mr. Chairman. This bill only deals
```

with sexually explicit, sexually graphic 1 2 entertainment. 3 Another thing that was brought up by the most recent witness is relative to the 4 5 definition of adult cabaret. That definition 6 already exists. It's in statute 7-51-1401, "'adult 7 cabaret' means a cabaret that features topless 8 dancers, go-go dancers, exotic dancers, strippers, 9 male or female impersonators, or similar 10 entertainers." 11 That is language that has been on the 12 books for many, many decades. The legislation that 13 I'm bringing you today does nothing to change, to 14 add or subtract to that. The bill I'm bringing you 15 today simply says that if it's adult-themed 16 sexually explicit entertainment -- and I think 17 we've already talked about what that is, and we 18 certainly recognize and acknowledge that different 19 people may have different opinions of what is 20 inappropriate when it's performed in front of 2.1 minors. 22 But that's what we're referring to --2.3 to simply say that cannot take place in a public 2.4 area where there's a reasonable expectation where 25 if you take to your kids or your grandkids to a

```
1
    public park that they're not going to be confronted
 2
    with someone performing sex acts or simulating sex
 3
    acts as a form of entertainment. I don't believe
 4
    that is unreasonable.
 5
                Similarly, if that type of
 6
    entertainment is to take place in a private venue,
 7
    you simply have to check the IDs at the door and
 8
    make sure there's no kids coming in.
 9
                That's all the bill does, Mr. Chairman.
10
    I appreciate the committee's support.
11
                CHAIRMAN (SENATOR GARDENHIRE):
12
    you.
13
                Chairman Roberts, any follow-up
14
    questions?
15
                Any other questions from the panel?
16
                Seeing none, are we ready to vote?
17
                Madam Secretary, call the roll.
18
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Kyle?
19
                SENATOR KYLE: (Response off
20
    microphone.)
2.1
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Lamar?
22
                SENATOR LAMAR: No.
2.3
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Lundberg.
2.4
                SENATOR LUNDBERG: Aye.
25
                MADAM SECRETARY: Chairman Roberts?
```

```
1
                REPRESENTATIVE ROBERTS:
                                          Aye.
 2
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Rose?
 3
                SENATOR ROSE: Aye.
 4
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Stevens?
 5
                SENATOR STEVENS: Aye.
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Taylor?
 6
 7
                SENATOR TAYLOR: Aye.
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator White?
 8
 9
                SENATOR WHITE: Aye.
                MADAM SECRETARY: Senator Gardenhire?
10
11
                SENATOR GARDENHIRE:
                                      Aye.
12
                MADAM SECRETARY: Chairman, you've got
13
    one "no" and seven "ayes."
14
                THE COURT: Thank you, Madam Secretary.
15
    The bill passes and goes to calendar.
16
                SENATOR ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr.
17
    Chairman, Members.
18
                        [END OF SESSION]
19
20
21
22
2.3
2.4
25
```

```
1
 2
      IN THE SENATE FLOOR SESSION - 7th LEGISLATIVE DAY
                 TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 3
 4
                       February 6, 2023
 5
 6
                (WHEREUPON, on the above date, there
 7
    came up for consideration in the Senate Floor
 8
    Session - 7th Legislative Day of the Tennessee
 9
    General Assembly, Senate Bill 0003, sponsored by
10
    Senator Johnson and others. Discussion pertaining
11
    to this bill was as follows):
12
13
                MR. CLERK: Mr. Speaker, on the regular
14
    calendar, Item Number 1, Senator Johnson on third
15
    and final consideration.
16
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Leader
17
    Johnson, you are recognized.
18
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you,
19
    Mr. Speaker. Members, what I would like to do on
20
    this bill is momentarily I'm going to move it for
2.1
    passage and defer to Chairman Gardenhire. There is
2.2
    an amendment that makes the bill and I'd like to get
23
    that amendment properly before us. And then I have
24
    been asked by a member to roll this until Thursday,
25
    and I'm happy to honor that request because of our
```

```
1
    limited time here on the floor. I expect there to
 2
    be a bit of discussion on this bill, and so I'm
 3
    happy to honor the request from my fellow member.
 4
                I move passage of Senate Bill 0003,
    third and final consideration.
 5
 6
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): That's a
 7
    proper motion for passage on Senate Bill 0003.
                                                     It's
 8
    properly seconded.
                Senator Gardenhire?
 9
10
                SENATOR GARDENHIRE:
                                      Thank you,
11
    Mr. Speaker. I move Amendment Number 1 for adoption
12
    and yield to the sponsor for an explanation.
13
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
14
    Gardenhire moves Amendment Number 1. Seconded, by
15
    the sponsor.
16
                Leader Johnson, you're recognized.
17
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                   Thank you,
18
    Mr. Speaker. Now that we've got this in our proper
19
    position for consideration on Thursday, I ask that
20
    we roll it to Thursday next, please, sir.
21
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Without
22
    objection, Thursday next.
2.3
                        [END OF SESSION]
2.4
25
```

```
1
 2
      IN THE SENATE FLOOR SESSION - 8th LEGISLATIVE DAY
                 TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 3
                       February 9, 2023
 4
 5
 6
                (WHEREUPON, On the above date, there
 7
    came up for consideration in the Senate Floor
 8
    Session - 8th Legislative Day of the Tennessee
 9
    General Assembly, Senate Bill 0003, sponsored by
10
    Senator Johnson and others. Discussion pertaining
11
    to this bill was as follows):
12
13
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): You are
14
    recognized on Senate Bill 0003.
15
                SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr.
16
    Speaker.
17
                Members, I move passage of Senate Bill
18
    0003 on third and final consideration for purposes
19
    of bringing up a judiciary committee amendment that
20
    makes the bill.
21
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): That's a
22
    proper motion. Properly amended.
23
                Mr. Clerk?
24
                MR. CLERK: Amendment Number 1 by Senate
25
    Judiciary Committee.
```

```
1
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Chairman
 2
    Todd you're -- Garden- -- excuse me -- Chairman
 3
    Gardenhire, you are recognized.
                SENATOR GARDENHIRE:
 4
                                      Thank you,
 5
   Mr. Speaker. Amendment 1 drafting code 3058 makes
 6
    the bill. I yield to the sponsor for explanation of
 7
    the amendment.
 8
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): That's a
 9
   proper motion. Properly seconded by committee.
10
                Senator Johnson, you are recognized on
11
    the amendment.
12
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you, Mr.
13
    Speaker. And, yes, the judiciary committee
14
    amendment does make the bill. As amended, Senate
15
    Bill 0003 would clear up confusion that exists in
16
    the law relative to adult-oriented performances and
17
    specified that they may only be held in
18
    age-restricted venues as is worded in current law
19
    and may not be held on publicly owned property.
20
                Under current law, Mr. Speaker,
2.1
   businesses that provide predominantly
22
    adult-oriented entertainment must be licensed and
2.3
    age restricted to prevent children from entering
2.4
    that venue.
25
                This bill would simply clarify that if
```

1 this type of adult-oriented entertainment occurs in 2. locations that are not required to be reregulated 3 under the current adult entertainment law because 4 it is not the predominant business of that 5 establishment, let's say like a restaurant, for 6 example, that they have to make sure if that type 7 of explicit entertainment is taking place that the 8 venue is age restricted so that it won't be made 9 available to children. 10 The bill only applies to performances 11 that appeal to a prurient interest, which are those 12 performances that are overtly sexual in nature. 13 This is a well-understood term in Tennessee 14 obscenity case law surrounding what it means to 15 appeal to a prurient interest. With this bill, Mr. 16 Speaker, only the entertainer who acts in violation 17 of this law would be subject to the criminal 18 penalty, not the business where the performance 19 took place. 20 And, Mr. Speaker, if I could, in the 2.1 definition section of the bill -- there have been a 22 lot of accusations about -- that this bill will ban 2.3 this and this bill will ban that. I want to read 2.4 the cross-referenced section, which comes from 25 39-17-901. And in that chapter, which is basically

1 our obscenity chapter, there is a term "harmful to 2 minors." That has been in our code for many years 3 -- "harmful to minors." 4 And here's the definition of "harmful 5 to minors." It means that "quality of any 6 description or representation, in whatever form, of 7 nudity, sexual excitement, sexual conduct, excess 8 violence, or sadomasochistic abuse, when the matter 9 or performance" -- and I want you to listen very 10 clearly to those three triggers that have to be 11 met. 12 "If that type of entertainment would be 13 found by the average person applying contemporary 14 community standards to appeal to a pre- -- or 15 appeal predominantly to the prurient interest, 16 shameful or harmful or morbid interest of minors, 17 or the second of those three prongs is patently 18 offensive to prevailing standards in the adult 19 community as a whole with respect to what is 2.0 suitable for minors." And the final trigger that 2.1 has to be met is "taken as a whole lacks serious 22 literary, artistic, political, or scientific values 2.3 for minors." 2.4 Now, Mr. Speaker and Members, I would 25 submit for your consideration that that's a pretty

1 tight definition. And if something that meets that 2 standard, the existing definition of what is 3 harmful to a minor in current statute -- we're not 4 rewriting that -- we are applying the definition, 5 the term "harmful to minors" as it exists in our 6 current obscenity statute, and we're saying that 7 you can't do that in a public park. You can't do 8 that in a restaurant where kids are present. And 9 we all know, we've seen videos that have surfaced 10 from here in Tennessee and places elsewhere in the 11 country and watched them and were appalled and 12 heard from hundreds, if not thousands, of our 13 constituents wanting to know why in the world this 14 type of overtly sexual entertainment could be 15 taking place in a public area where kids are 16 present. 17 And, frankly, we didn't have a good 18 answer, because the law didn't address it. 19 bill fixes that and will make sure that that type 20 of entertainment takes place in an age-restricted 2.1 venue where it can take place now. And if it's 22 going to take place somewhere else, it can't take 2.3 place with this bill on any public property. And 2.4 if you want to have that kind of entertainment in 25 your private business, that's fine. You just can't

```
1
    let kids in. I don't think that's terribly
 2
    unreasonable, Mr. Speaker.
 3
                I second the motion on the adoption of
 4
    the amendment.
 5
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Discussion?
 6
                Senator Massey, you are recognized.
 7
                SENATOR MASSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
 8
    And will the sponsor yield?
 9
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): The sponsor
10
    vields.
11
                SENATOR MASSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
12
                And, Leader, just to confirm, signing
13
    this would not prevent someone dressed up as
14
    Whitney Houston singing Whitney Houston songs with
15
    none of the sexual parameters involved, they
16
    would -- that would still be allowed?
17
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Leader
18
    Johnson?
19
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                   That is correct,
20
    Mr. Speaker. That is an accurate statement and,
21
    again, I will refer anyone who has a question about
22
    what it applies to and what it doesn't to go to
2.3
    39-17-901 and read the existing definition of what
2.4
    is harmful to a minor that has existed for many
25
    vears.
```

```
1
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
 2
   Massey, you are recognized.
 3
                SENATOR MASSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
 4
                And just another clarification because
 5
    these are questions I've been asked, it wouldn't
 6
    prevent a high school drama club that was at a
 7
    girls-only school performing "Newsies," the play
 8
    "Newsies," where it's all young boy newspaper
 9
    sellers, it wouldn't prevent them from dressing up
10
    as guys and performing that play?
11
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Leader
12
    Johnson, you are recognized.
13
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you,
14
   Mr. Speaker.
15
                That is absolutely correct.
16
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
17
    Massey, you are recognized.
18
                SENATOR MASSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
19
                And I think the key -- you know, a lot
20
    of the e-mails we've been getting talks about
21
    artistic expression and different things like that.
22
    But the key is is basically lewd, sexual acts that
2.3
    are not appropriate in open forum.
                                        They're not
2.4
    appropriate for young kids. And, you know, you got
25
    to be 18 to get a tattoo. I mean it's -- you know,
```

```
1
    I mean, it -- but we want to, you know, have the
 2
    door open that they can go see overt nudity and
 3
    sexual acts or the depiction of sexual acts, I'm
 4
    sorry. That's not what Tennessee is about, and I
 5
    am supporting the bill.
 6
                THE COURT: Senator Campbell, you are
 7
    recognized.
 8
                SENATOR CAMPBELL: Thank you,
 9
    Mr. Speaker. Would the sponsor please yield for a
10
    question?
11
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Sponsor
12
    yields.
13
                SENATOR CAMPBELL: Could the sponsor
14
    give us an example of how this law would be applied
15
    and enforced.
16
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Leader
17
    Johnson, you are recognized.
18
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you,
19
    Mr. Speaker.
20
                It would be enforced like any other law
21
    that we have on the books, with law enforcement and
22
    prosecutors.
2.3
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
2.4
    Campbell, you are recognized.
25
                SENATOR CAMPBELL: Thank you,
```

```
1
   Mr. Speaker.
 2
                So to the sponsor, I'm trying to
 3
    understand exactly a scenario. Could the sponsor
 4
    please take us through a scenario in which this law
 5
    would be applied and then enforced.
 6
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally):
                                             Leader
 7
    Johnson, you are recognized.
                SENATOR JOHNSON: If someone -- thank
8
 9
    you, Mr. Speaker.
10
                If someone violates the law and there
11
    is evidence presented to a prosecutor, the
12
    prosecutor can file criminal charges against the
13
    person who violated the law. Again, like every
14
    other criminal law we have on the books.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
16
    Campbell, you are recognized.
17
                SENATOR CAMPBELL:
                                   So thank you,
18
   Mr. Speaker. I was hoping for an actual example,
19
    because it's a little perplexing, you know.
20
                Unless I'm mistaken, this is the
2.1
    federal standard for obscenity, and I think the
22
    sponsor just described this as being already the
2.3
    federal standard for obscenity, which would already
2.4
    be enforceable and for it to apply to a drag show
25
    or to other situations. The drag show component of
```

1 this is irrelevant and it's never been found to be 2. obscene under the same standards as applied at the 3 federal level. 4 If I murdered someone, I broke the law. If new state-level legislation says that I've 5 6 broken the law if I murder somebody while I'm 7 wearing a dress, then it's inefficient at best. 8 Drag is a form of creative expression 9 like any other dance, fashion, music. The 10 essential elements of a drag performance are all 11 protected by the First Amendment. And laws such as 12 this are inherently applied according to standards 13 within a particular community at a particular time, 14 and they could easily have been applied to swimsuit 15 attire; in the 1920's, if it was anything less than 16 a full body suit or a dress that revealed women's 17 ankles. 18 You know, my husband wore a kilt to our 19 wedding -- because we're Campbells, right -- and 2.0 was he wearing a skirt and would that be considered 2.1 cross-dressing and when we kissed at the end of the ceremony in front of all of the children who were 22 2.3 present, were we arguably violating this law? 2.4 This just highlights the absurdity of 25 attempting to police people's thoughts. As a

1 matter of fact, this is the beginning of the same 2 policies women in Iran are risking their lives to 3 oppose by being forced to wear a burga. 4 Look, I saw the videos. I saw the videos that led to this effort and I understand why 5 6 people are alarmed. I really do. But, again, 7 apparent and obscene behavior is already covered under federal law. I'm sure that most of us also 8 9 saw the self-proclaimed Nazis who were protesting 10 drag shows. Is that who we want to align ourselves 11 That's the wrong side of history. Lord, at 12 least I hope it's the wrong side of history. 13 These are the strings of fascism. 14 Leveraging fear of others may be politically 15 advantageous, but it's the antithesis of good 16 governance, and I know we all know this deep in our 17 hearts because it's in the stories that we tell 18 each other. It's in "To Kill a Mocking Bird," and 19 "Schindler's List," and even "Star Wars." 20 We know we should do onto others as we 2.1 would have done onto us. Our LGBT+ community are 22 rightful citizens and beloved friends and family 2.3 members and the horrible attacks that we wage upon 2.4 this with this slate of hate legislation only hurts 25 people. We were elected to solve problems, support

```
1
    our constituents, and we have serious issues to
 2
    address like health care, inflation, education,
 3
    food deserts, litter, traffic. We won't, we can't,
 4
    and we shouldn't take rights away from and cancel
 5
    our own citizens just because they are different
 6
    from us in some way.
 7
                With deep -- truly deep respect for the
 8
    sponsor, Mr. Speaker, I will be voting against
 9
    this.
10
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
11
    Akbari, you are recognized.
12
                SENATOR AKBARI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
13
                And I just need some clarification. I
14
    had a constituent reach out to me.
                                         She is a
15
    performer at an establishment in my district.
16
    do a brunch every week, they do a bingo brunch,
17
    families bring their children there and the
18
    brunch -- it's a drag brunch.
19
                So to the sponsor of this legislation,
20
    would that impact their ability to have those types
2.1
    of events?
22
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Leader
2.3
    Johnson, you are recognized.
2.4
                SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you,
25
    Mr. Speaker.
```

Members, I'm going to read this again because we could be here all day coming up with hypothetical scenarios and asking me does it apply to this or does it apply to that.

2.1

2.3

2.4

To my friend from Shelby County, the person who contacted you asking about whether it would apply to them and your question, I would say are they doing something that is defined in our statute as harmful to a minor? Are they doing something that involves "nudity, sexual excitement, sexual conduct, excess violence, or sadomasochistic abuse, whether -- when the matter or the performance would be found by the average person applying contemporary community standards to appeal predominantly to the prurient, shameful, or morbid interest of minors?" That's first prong. I could read the other two.

So for everyone else that's wanting to stand up and talk about kissing their husband at their wedding wearing a kilt, again, I'm going to refer you back to what I said in the opening stand, and I'm prepared to be here all day, Mr. Speaker, and answer questions about does it apply to this or does it apply to that? But every single time you ask me that, I'm going to refer you back to what I

```
1
    read originally, the definition of what is harmful
 2
    to a minor.
 3
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
 4
    Akbari, you're recognized.
 5
                SENATOR AKBARI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
 6
    And I have read the statute and the existing statute
 7
    that defines obscenity within our state.
 8
    asking specific questions because of concerns from
 9
    my constituents and we want to really ascertain the
10
    legislative intent, because we all know that there
11
    are certain things in statute, but there's also --
12
    if there ever is any sort of review of the
13
    legislation, it's important to have more than just
14
    the statute as a part of that intent.
15
                My next question, Mr. Speaker, with
16
    your indulgence, has to do -- and I'm going to be
17
    specific -- because I want a specific answer and
18
    not a statute -- has to do with those who have
19
    pride performances.
                         I represent downtown Memphis.
20
    The pride parade is in my district every year and
21
    there are people who are dressed in drag attire.
22
                I want to know specifically if this
2.3
    would afringe [sic] those people who live in
2.4
    Tennessee and vote in Tennessee and pay taxes in
25
    Tennessee -- would it afringe their rights to be
```

```
1
    able to participate in pride performances?
 2
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally):
                                             Leader
 3
    Johnson, you are recognized.
 4
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                  Thank you,
 5
   Mr. Speaker.
 6
                Members, if you get questions from any
 7
    of your constituents about whether or not this is
 8
    going to apply to an event that they wish to hold
 9
    or some type of entertainment that they would like
10
    to present, I would encourage you to direct them to
11
    the obscenity statute, 39-17-901. And if they're
12
    going to be doing anything that is in that
13
    obscenity statute that has been defined in this
14
    state as harmful to a minor for many years, then
15
    not allowing children to be there.
16
                By the way, they can have the event.
17
    They can have any event they want to. But if it's
18
    going to meet that standard of harmful to a minor
19
    that's been in our code for many years, just don't
2.0
    let the kids there. It's that simple.
21
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally):
                                             Senator
22
    Akbari, you are recognized.
2.3
                SENATOR AKBARI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
2.4
                Obscenity has been defined in our code
25
    for quite some time so it seems that people are
```

```
1
    already protected from any sort of obscene acts
 2
    from taking place in public. This seems
 3
    specifically targeted, and I will be voting no.
 4
                And to my constituents that feel that
 5
    this legislation threatens who they are and who
 6
    they seek to be, I hope that they know they have
 7
    folks fighting for them to preserve their
 8
    expression and their freedom in this state.
 9
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
10
    Yarboro, you're recognized.
11
                SENATOR YARBORO:
                                  Thank you, Mr.
12
    Speaker.
13
                And I rise somewhat in surprise that
14
    the sponsor insists that this is just a simple
15
    matter of directing people to these three lines in
16
    our code as if that's some sort of simple
17
    explanation of what's contemplated here.
18
                That standard is a community-based
19
               There's 31 -- there will be 31 different
20
    versions of what this means, one for every judicial
2.1
    district in the state. What's going to count as
22
    sexual excitement is going to depend on what a jury
2.3
    in one county or a different county thinks; so this
2.4
    is not some simple thing.
25
                And even that, he's -- the sponsor is
```

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

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10

11

12

13

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15

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2.3

2.4

25

correct that after a few tries and several constitutional litigations, we've ended up with sort of this constitutional -- this statutory regime and yet the language that he's citing, we used to talk about books and movies and items and the things that can actually be reviewed in courts. But like, we're not dealing with that, we're dealing with performances. In our code right now, and what this bill does, this legislation is going into Title 7-51 [sic], which is about adult-oriented establishments. Those are a few hundred places in the whole state that are subject to super specific licensing regulations, and rules. But then it's applying that standard effectively to the world anywhere in public or anywhere where any child could view, and not just views, like anywhere where a child could view a performance. So one out of four or five people is a child in Tennessee -basically everywhere. My neighbor's backyard is a place where a child can view. Like the park across the street, obviously, a place where a child can view. anywhere is going to fall under this. And so we're taken what is a -- what we all know is a really

1 specific set of institutional rules that our state 2 has fallen short of adhering to in the past and we 3 are applying them not to the specific set of adult 4 materials and pornographic materials that are 5 distributed across the state, not to specifically 6 targeted adult-oriented establishments, but to the 7 world. 8 We're letting the police sort of start 9 looking for that type of activity in each and every 10 performance and the sponsor, Mr. Speaker, he 11 insists that this is not intended to go after all 12 of these different hypotheticals, and I don't 13 question that it is. I think we know what it's 14 intended to go after. But there are lots of things 15 that would fall under the definition of this. 16 There are lots of your counties where 17 there is still a powderpuff football game where 18 high school boys will wear cheerleader outfits and short skirts and, like, you think there's any 19 20 possibility that a 16, 17-year-old boy has ever 2.1 once made a sexually suggestive conduct while 22 performing as a cheerleader in one of those? Ιf 2.3 you don't think so, you probably haven't met a 2.4 17-year-old boy. 25 You think about Carnicus at UT.

1 mean, it's easy to sort of say, yeah, we're not 2 going after Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, but there 3 are numerous performances that are much more bawdy, 4 that involve, you know, performers going into a 5 specific place, into things that are sexually 6 suggestive and have questionable artistic value, 7 but we usually don't police those with the power of 8 the State. But that's what we're doing here. 9 We're sending this off into the world. And, I 10 mean, maybe that's not the intent but it's only the 11 intent because we're telling people that's not the 12 intent is. 13 And what the sponsor says, that this 14 was -- you know, isn't targeting a group, but the 15 day this bill was filed, Mr. Speaker, my friend, 16 the sponsor, cited that this was being filed in 17 response to controversial drag shows across the 18 state. That's what he said the day he filed it, 19 Mr. Speaker. 20 And I don't -- I agree with people's 2.1 I understand. I'm a parent of small concerns. 22 children. There is no way in the world that I want 2.3 to see -- that I want to be somewhere where my 2.4 children could be exposed to sexually explicit or 25 improper or already obscene, vulgar conduct. But

```
1
    that's already illegal.
                And so I'm not sure what this does
 2
 3
    except go after what has been deemed controversial
 4
    drag shows and we know that there are nine other
 5
    states that are considering legislation that are
 6
    about drag shows, and I just think that we are
 7
    going down a dangerous road here, folks.
 8
    supposed to, at the baseline, believe in freedom
 9
    and that laws should be pretty narrowly tailored.
10
    This law applies everywhere in our state and puts
11
    citizens in a place to call on the police, to call
12
    on prosecutors anytime they think somebody isn't
13
    raising their kids right, anytime they think
14
    there's a performance that they don't agree with,
15
    and that is a dangerous road to walk down,
16
   Mr. Speaker.
17
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senator
18
    Kyle, you are recognized.
19
                SENATOR KYLE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
20
                And with all due respect to the
21
    colleague who has brought this bill, I would ask
22
    that he would yield for questions and
2.3
    clarification.
2.4
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): He yields.
25
                SENATOR KYLE: I don't mean to aggravate
```

1 you or make you repeat a hundred times the law. 2 issue is twofold. With due respect, there's always 3 unintended consequences. And if this should become 4 a lawsuit because the standards aren't defined -there's a difference -- for example -- if I was a 5 6 lawyer, I would be looking at sexual conduct as 7 Tyler Perry -- the famous icon Hollywood star, plays 8 a role called Madea. And if he would come and play 9 that role for us here at the performing arts center 10 or the Memphis Orpheum and did a death drop, that 11 might be considered sexual where other ones of us 12 might consider it comedy. 13 Arkansas brought a case -- and this is 14 what I'm getting to -- and the reason they brought 15 that case under the First Amendment, selective 16 prosecution, even under the obscenity statute, what 17 is, what isn't; what behavior is not acceptable, 18 what class of people are not acceptable. 19 different mindsets on selective prosecution. 20 And, Leader Johnson, people choose 2.1 careers. Whether I agree with their career, 22 whether I don't agree with their career, even with 2.3 my four children, they all have different jobs in 2.4 this nation, one is an engineer and I can't even 25 spell coding. It's -- whether I agree with her

```
1
    taking that job or not, that is up to her. And if
 2
    we start criminalizing morality, behavior, then
 3
    we're in a quagmire; our attorney general, this
 4
    state, may spend millions of dollars on a lawsuit
 5
    because we've taken somebody's livelihood away. I
 6
   might not agree with their career choice, but we
 7
    can't take their careers away. We just don't go to
    those shows or have our children there.
 8
 9
                Now, under this First Amendment issue,
10
    are we -- are we criminalizing or trying to find
11
    moral standards?
12
                Thank you. And I appreciate your
13
               I will look back again and reread
    patience.
14
    obscenity.
               That is an open interpretation. And
15
    please have patience with me. I'm just trying to
16
    talk and vet this out. Thank you, sir.
17
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Thank you,
18
    Senator Kyle.
19
                Leader Johnson?
20
                Do I have --
21
                Senator Oliver, you are recognized.
22
                SENATOR OLIVER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
2.3
    I've got numerous e-mails about this bill, and I am
2.4
    just appalled that we are introducing legislation
25
    before this body on the basis of it being "harmful
```

1 to minors." We have issues in our DCS that is 2 having harm -- doing harm to minors. 3 Just this May, there was a report that 4 came out that pastors in this state are sexually 5 abusing children in the Southern Baptist 6 Convention. And the last time I checked, this body 7 did not have a resolution to condemn that sexual 8 behavior, but we are using artistic expression subjectively to say that drag shows are being 9 10 criminalized. And so I just find it appalling that 11 the leader cannot give us a scenario in which this 12 bill would be obscene to minors. 13 In my district, the TSU Sophisticated 14 Ladies are a dance group. They perform at football 15 They wear wigs. They put on extravagant games. 16 They wear costumes and they gyrate and makeup. 17 squat and dance with their hips, with their legs 18 open, and that is a form of dance and artistic 19 expression. 20 So are you telling me, Mr. Leader, that 21 students who go to college to perform and get a 22 scholarship to dance, will they be criminalized in 2.3 this bill as of form of obscene behavior? Because 2.4 we're bringing kids to a football game, will 25 parents be able to, now, not be allowed to bring

```
1
    their kids into a football game because we're
 2
    criminalizing artistic expression?
 3
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Thank you,
 4
    Senator.
                Leader Johnson?
 5
                Senator Roberts, you're recognized.
 6
 7
                SENATOR ROBERTS:
                                  Thank you,
8
   Mr. Speaker. I really had no intention on speaking
 9
    on this bill and I've just sat and listened to the
10
    various comments that have been made, and I just
11
    feel compelled to say something.
12
                There are a lot of distractions from
13
    the real issue here. I'm hearing things like hate
14
    legislation, talking about canceling the LGBTQIA+
15
    community, you know, costing people their careers.
16
    Tyler Perry, "Star Wars," I mean, these are all
    distractions from the real issue.
17
18
                The issue is simply this. Each one of
19
    us saw videos, or at least I hope we did.
2.0
    videos of performances of at Tennessee Tech
2.1
    University, Murfreesboro, Nashville, places across
22
    the state where entertainers or performers
2.3
    simulated anal sex, oral sex, other graphic
2.4
    activities with children sitting a few feet away
25
    from them. If you're in favor of that, then go
```

right ahead, vote against this bill. But I thought we were about protecting children and protecting children against people and -- you know what, if a man showed up and exposed himself to your child, you would absolutely hope that the sheriff would arrest that person and the DA would prosecute that person.

2.1

2.3

2.4

It's just unbelievable to me that we sat here and saw videos of people simulating sex acts in front of children and no one was arrested and no one was prosecuted and the word came back to us that the law was not clear enough, it wasn't specific enough, it wasn't strong enough that a prosecutor felt like they could get in front of a judge and get a conviction.

And so what we did is what we do all the time. We took a look at TCA and we said, you know what, we need to strengthen that law because in the state of Tennessee, we don't think it's appropriate for grown men to perform in front of children simulated sex acts. That's what this is about.

It's not about Tyler Perry dressing up as a woman and performing at TPAC. It's not about canceling anybody. It's not even about telling

1 drag performers that they can't perform. 2. simply saying you cannot simulate sex acts in front 3 of a child. And, again, because prosecutors came 4 to us and said they didn't think the law was strong enough to be able to do that, that's what this bill 5 6 And for somebody to make it an attack on 7 a certain group of people is not what it's about. 8 If you saw the video, I'm sure you were 9 outraged. And you know what, no, I would not take 10 my children there. But furthermore, I don't want 11 other people's children being exposed to that too. 12 We do stuff all the time that protects children. 13 Why suddenly are we having an argument about 14 whether or not this bill is the right thing? Ιt 15 protects children. 16 I appreciate the sponsor bringing the 17 I'm sorry that we sat here and had a 18 discussion about it for 30 minutes. And, again, I 19 hadn't planned on saying anything and I --20 everybody who has gotten up and spoken, I have the 21 deepest respect for but I just want to ask you to 22 focus on this issue. And I know you're getting 2.3 pounded with e-mails from constituents who are 2.4 trying to make it something that it's not, and I 25 know you feel like you have to respond to those

```
constituents, but sometimes what we have to do is
 1
 2.
    tell our constituents this bill is not what you
 3
    think it is. What we're trying to do is we're
 4
    trying to protect children but a very small group
 5
    of people in very isolated incidents that are
 6
    simulating sex acts in front of children. And then
 7
    to add insult to injury, to watch a child take a
 8
    dollar bill and go put it, you know, in the
 9
    G-string or whatever of that performer just was too
10
    much. And it's time that we say to our DAs, to our
11
    sheriffs, to our law enforcement that we're not
12
    going to tolerate this kind of activity. It's
13
    going to be illegal in Tennessee.
14
                Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
15
                Thank you, Senator Roberts.
16
                Senator Bailey, you're recognized.
17
                SENATOR BAILEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
18
    I call the question.
19
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally):
20
    question has been called.
21
                I did have someone else in line.
22
                Will you yield on that?
2.3
                So the question has been called on
2.4
    Senate Bill 0003. We're on the amendment.
25
                All in favor of the amendment will vote
```

```
1
    "aye" when the bell rings; all opposed vote "no."
 2
                We do a voice vote. Let's do a voice
 3
    vote on that.
 4
                All in favor of the amendment say
 5
    "aye."
 6
                MEMBERS:
                          (Collectively) Aye.
 7
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Opposed?
 8
                MEMBERS:
                          (Collectively) Nay.
 9
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): The ayes
10
    carry.
11
                The ayes carry.
12
                We are on the bill as amended, Senate
13
    Bill 0003.
14
                Any additional discussion?
15
                The vote has been called.
16
                Senator -- I will let Leader Johnson
17
    close.
18
                SENATOR JOHNSON:
                                   Thank you, Mr. Speaker
19
    and Members. I appreciate the discussion.
20
                In closing, I do want to echo something
21
    that my friend from Robertson County said.
22
    was a lot of mischaracterization of this bill
2.3
    coming from the opponents of it. And I don't know
2.4
    if that is intentional because you want to
25
    misrepresent the bill and make it look like we're
```

```
1
    trying to attack a certain segment of our
 2
    population when we're not or if you didn't read the
 3
    bill. It's one of those two, because if you read
 4
    the bill and you understand the bill, then a lot of
 5
    the comments that were made were clearly
 6
    mischaracterizing, misrepresenting the bill.
 7
                That's why I was very intentional in my
 8
    opening remarks, Mr. Speaker. This bill only
 9
    applies to something that would be found by the
10
    average person applying contemporary, community
11
    standards to appeal predominantly to the prurient,
12
    shameful, or morbid interest of minors, and -- not
13
    or -- and is patently offensive to prevailing
14
    standards in the adult community as a whole with
15
    respect to what is suitable for minors and -- not
16
    or -- and takes as -- takes as whole -- or rather
17
    taken as whole, like serious literary, artistic,
18
    political, or scientific values for minors.
19
                That's what the bill applies to and I
20
    appreciate your support.
21
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): We are on
22
    the board.
2.3
                All of those in favor will vote "aye"
2.4
    when the bill rings. Those opposed, vote "no."
25
                Mr. Clerk?
```

```
1
                Has every member voted? Does any
 2
    member wish to change their vote?
 3
                MR. CLERK: Ayes, 26; six nays.
                 CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senate Bill
 4
    0003, having received the constitutional majority,
 5
 6
    is adopted. Without objection, the motion to
 7
    reconsider goes to table.
 8
                        [END OF SESSION]
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
2.3
2.4
25
```

```
1
 2
       IN THE HOUSE FLOOR SESSION - 9th LEGISLATIVE DAY
                 TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 3
                      February 23, 2023
 4
 5
 6
                (WHEREUPON, On the above date, there
 7
    came up for consideration in the House Floor Session
 8
    - 9th Legislative Day of the Tennessee General
 9
    Assembly, Senate Bill 0003, sponsored by
10
    Representative Todd and others. Discussion
11
    pertaining to this bill was as follows):
12
13
                MR. CLERK: House Bill 0009 by Chairman
14
    Todd and others relative to adult-oriented
15
    performances, Mr. Speaker, the senate bill is on the
16
    desk.
17
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd,
18
    you are recognized.
19
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                       Thank you, Mr.
20
    Speaker. I move to substitute and conform to Senate
2.1
    Bill 0003.
2.2
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd
23
    moves to substitute and conform Senate Bill 0003.
24
                Properly seconded.
25
                Without objection, so ordered.
```

```
1
                Chairman Todd?
 2
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Thank you,
 3
    Mr. Speaker. I move passage of Senate Bill 0003 on
    third and final consideration.
 4
 5
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd
 6
    moves passage on Senate Bill 0003 on third and final
 7
    consideration.
 8
                Properly seconded.
 9
                Mr. Clerk, call the first amendment.
                MR. CLERK: House Criminal Justice
10
11
    Committee Number 1.
12
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Hulsey,
13
    you are recognized.
14
                REPRESENTATIVE HULSEY:
                                         Thank you,
15
    Mr. Speaker.
16
                This amendment rewrites the bill and I
17
    move adoption to House of Criminal Justice
18
    Committee, Amendment Number 1, and defer to the
19
    sponsor for further explanation.
20
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Hulsey
2.1
    moves adoption to House Amendment Number 1.
22
                Properly seconded.
2.3
                Any discussion on the amendment?
2.4
                All those in favor of adoption of House
25
    Amendment Number 1 say "aye."
```

```
1
                Aye.
 2
                All those opposed, say no.
 3
                The ayes have it.
 4
                Next amendment, Mr. Clerk.
 5
                MR. CLERK: Mr. Speaker, no further
 6
    amendments.
 7
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Hulsey,
 8
    you are recognized.
 9
                Oh, I'm sorry. Chairman Todd, you are
10
    recognized.
11
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                       Thank you, Mr.
12
    Speaker.
13
                As we stated, Amendment 1 makes the
14
           As amended, Senate Bill 0003 clears up
    bill.
15
    confusion in the law and clarifies that
16
    adult-oriented performances may only be held in
17
    age-restricted locations and may never be held on
18
    publicly owned property.
19
                Under current law, businesses that
20
    predominantly provide adult-oriented entertainment
2.1
    must be licensed and age restricted to prevent
22
    children from entrance. This bill simply clarifies
2.3
    that if this type of adult-oriented entertainment
2.4
    occurs in locations that are not required to be
25
    regulated under the current law because the adult
```

```
entertainment is not predominant to that business,
 1
 2
    like a restaurant, for example, then that business
 3
    must ensure that the location is age restricted and
 4
    children are not allowed to view the performance.
 5
                The bill only applies to performances
 6
    that are considered harmful to minors under the
 7
    State's obscenity laws, which are those
 8
    performances that are overtly sexual in nature and
    that appeal to a prurient interest. This is a
 9
10
    well-understood term in Tennessee obscenity case
11
    law surrounding what it means to appeal to a
12
    prurient interest. This is a commonsense child
13
    safety bill, and I would appreciate your support.
14
                Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Do you renew
16
    your motion?
17
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                      I renew my motion.
18
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton):
                                         Thank you.
19
                Chairman Todd renews his motion.
2.0
                Any discussion on the bill?
2.1
                Representative Johnson of Knox?
22
                REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON: Thank you,
2.3
    Mr. Speaker.
2.4
                So we already have obscenity laws on
25
    the books if you are being seen in front of
```

```
1
    children, it is already illegal; correct?
 2
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
 3
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: That is correct.
 4
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 5
    Johnson?
                REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON:
 6
                                          Thank you.
 7
                So if you're wearing lederhosen and
 8
   being in -- obscene in front of children, you will
 9
    be arrested; correct?
10
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
11
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: The bill has
12
    several things laid out that require -- that are
13
    required before you would be arrested or be charged
14
    with a crime.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
16
    Johnson?
17
                REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON: But weren't
18
    those things already illegal if you are being
19
    obscene in front of children?
20
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
21
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: This bill
22
    clarifies that entertainment -- adult entertainment
2.3
    within an adult-oriented establishment, regardless
2.4
    of whether a fee is charged or accepted for
25
    entertainment, regardless of whether the
```

```
1
    entertainment is provided by an employee, it also
 2
    provides that a performance of adult or simulated,
 3
    specified sexual activities, including removal of
 4
    articles of clothing or appearing unclothed, are
 5
    illegal.
 6
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 7
    Johnson?
 8
                REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON: I'm thinking of
 9
    a whole lot of performances where people remove
10
    articles of clothing. That doesn't make it a
11
    stripping situation, but you can remove a jacket.
12
    You can remove -- is that including this as well?
13
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
14
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Things that are
15
    not sexualized would not be included in this.
16
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
17
    Johnson?
18
                REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON: Can you define
19
    for me female impersonator?
20
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Mr. Speaker, that
2.1
    is something that she would have to refer to the law
22
    that we already have on the books for. I do not
2.3
    have that definition memorized.
2.4
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
25
    Johnson?
```

1 REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON: Is there a 2 definition in the law for a female impersonator? 3 CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd? 4 REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Mr. Speaker, as 5 amended, Senate Bill 0003 clears up confusion in the 6 law and clarifies that adult-oriented performances 7 may only be held in age-restricted venues and may 8 never be held on publicly owned property. 9 Under the current law, business --10 businesses that predominantly provide 11 adult-oriented entertainment must be licensed and 12 age restricted to prevent children from entrance. 13 This bill simply clarifies that this type of 14 adult-oriented entertainment occurs in locations 15 that are not required to be regulated under the 16 current adult entertainment law because that 17 entertainment is not predominant to the business, 18 such as a restaurant or some other venue, then that 19 business must ensure that the location is age 2.0 restricted, that minors must not be present and 2.1 children not be allowed to view the performance. 22 The bill only applies to performances 2.3 that are considered to be harmful to minors under 2.4 the state's obscenity laws, which are those 25 performances that are overtly sexual in nature and

```
1
    appeal to a prurient interest.
                39-17-901 defines "harmful to minors"
 2
 3
    that "quality of any description or representation,
 4
    in whatever form, of nudity, sexual excitement,
 5
    sexual conduct, excess violence, sadomasochistic
 6
    abuse when the matter or performance, (a) would be
 7
    found by the average person applying contemporary
 8
    community standards to appeal predominantly to the
 9
    prurient, shameful, or morbid interest of
10
    minors" --
11
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
12
    Johnson, you are out of order. You can allow him to
13
    finish, but we will not take shouting from the House
14
    floor. Thank you very much.
15
                Chairman Todd, you can continue.
16
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Thank you, Mr.
17
    Speaker.
18
                "(b) is patently offensive to
19
    prevailing standards in the adult community as a
20
    whole with respect to what is suitable for minors;
21
    and, (C), taken as a whole lacks serious literary,
22
    artistic, political, or scientific value for
2.3
    minors."
2.4
                There are other definitions as well
25
    that deal with adult-oriented establishments, but I
```

```
1
    hope that answers the question.
 2
                Mr. Speaker?
 3
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 4
    Johnson.
 5
                REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON: Thank you.
 6
                It doesn't answer the question,
 7
    actually. Because what we're doing is this is
 8
    going to have a chilling effect on things that
 9
    aren't obscene performances because I haven't seen
10
    obscene drag performances, but that is the target
11
    and the thing we are targeting here.
12
                And so the reality is we are violating
13
    people's First Amendment rights. We're having a
14
    chilling effect on how different people do
15
    performances. We have drag queens being --
16
                (Microphone turned off.)
17
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Very well.
18
                Representative Harris, you are
19
    recognized.
20
                REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS: Thank you, Mr.
21
    Speaker.
22
                So for clarity, two things have to
2.3
   happen in order for someone to violate this
2.4
    legislation. That would be, one, a minor would
25
   have to be present; and, two, it would have to meet
```

```
1
    the definition of harmful to a minor. Absent of
 2.
    those two parts, would that be the understanding of
 3
    this legislation?
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
 4
 5
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                       Thank you,
 6
    Mr. Speaker.
 7
                This addresses adult cabaret
 8
    entertainment and that means -- in the bill, it
 9
    says "adult cabaret entertainment" means
10
    "adult-oriented performances that are harmful to
11
    minors" -- "as I just read the definition of -- as
12
    that term is defined in 901 and that features
13
    topless dancers, go-go dancers, exotic dancers,
14
    strippers, male or female impersonators or similar
15
    entertainers" and -- this is required -- "includes
16
    a single performance or multiple performances by an
17
    entertainer."
                "Entertainer" then is defined in the
18
19
    bill as meaning "a person who provides
2.0
    entertainment within an adult-oriented
2.1
    establishment regardless of whether if he is
22
    charged."
2.3
                I will skip over to the next section.
2.4
                "A performance of actual or simulated
25
    specified sexual activities" as I just read are
```

```
1
    included in that "entertainer" definition.
 2
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 3
    Harris?
 4
                REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS:
    clarification, an adult entertainment --
 5
 6
    adult-cabaret entertainment by definition here is an
 7
    adult-oriented performance? Many of our communities
 8
    host annual family-oriented LGBTQ pride events each
 9
    year. So this would not apply to those since those
10
    are family-oriented; correct?
11
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
12
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Thank you, Mr.
13
              It's not my place to determine what is
    Speaker.
14
    going to apply here or not. The language is
15
    extremely clear, much more clear than I believe what
16
    we have in code at the moment. And, Mr. Speaker, I
17
    just believe this will make it much easier for the
18
    public to determine what is exactly appropriate for
19
    children and what is not appropriate for children
2.0
    and what can be performed in their presence or
2.1
    without their presence.
22
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
2.3
    Harris?
2.4
                REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS: Who will be
25
    responsible for enforcing this law?
```

```
1
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
 2
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                     Thank you,
 3
   Mr. Speaker. Responsible parties for enforcing laws
 4
    in this state has not changed by this bill.
 5
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representatives
 6
    Harris?
 7
                REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS: Who will be
8
    responsible for enforcing this law?
 9
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
10
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                       Thank you,
11
   Mr. Speaker.
12
                The same folks that enforce the laws
13
    currently will be enforcing this law.
14
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
15
    Harris?
16
                REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS: Have there been
17
    any instances where this has been -- where an adult
18
    cabaret in public has been harmful to you?
19
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
20
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                     Thank you,
21
   Mr. Speaker.
22
                This past year in my community we had a
2.3
    local group decide to do a quote "family-friendly
    pride" -- or a "family-friendly" drag show. And
2.4
25
    when they listed this as family-friendly, my
```

1 community rose up. We filed an injunction against 2. this group, actually, against the City of Jackson 3 because our city mayor was endorsing this and 4 refusing to use local ordinances to prevent it that 5 were very clearly set there to prevent this type of 6 activity in front of children. 7 The end of that, after spending several thousand dollars of individual donations -- we had 8 9 folks come from all over the community donating to 10 this effort to stop this from being in front of our 11 It was forced to be indoors and 18 and 12 up only. 13 And I was asked to come up with 14 legislation that would make this much more clear. 15 It came down to a definition I found. A definition 16 of the word "cabaret" that is not in current law. 17 And when, as I understand from talking to our legal 18 team, when you don't have something defined in law, 19 then you go to the dictionary. So we went to the 2.0 dictionary and the word "cabaret" can mean either a 2.1 performance or it can mean a location. 22 So we've certainly felt like and my 2.3 community felt like it was both -- it could be 2.4 both. But we took that to court and got the 25 injunction and got it moved to indoors and away

```
1
    from kids and that's exactly what -- the way this
 2
   bill is structured. It doesn't prevent those
 3
   performances. It certainly says that they must not
 4
    be held in front of minors and we intend to uphold
 5
    that and expect our law enforcement across our
 6
    great state to uphold that principle and uphold
 7
    what we pass here in this legislature.
8
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 9
    Harris?
10
                REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS:
                                         Thank you, Mr.
11
    Speaker.
12
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
13
    Hardaway?
14
                REPRESENTATIVE HARDAWAY:
                                           Thank you,
15
   Mr. Speaker.
16
                I'll tell you one thing I learned is
17
    not to ask a question until after I finish making
18
   my statements.
19
                The issue that hits me -- and I can't
20
    see the sponsor. I wish I could; so he could see
2.1
   me.
         There we go.
22
                The issue that hits me is in Section 1
2.3
    and it's because we -- we have language in there
2.4
    that is specifically calling out male or female
25
    impersonators. That's a problem for me.
```

1 sitting and making a couple of notes of male or 2 female impersonators who have been on TV regular 3 for a decades, male or female impersonators who are 4 in the movies, the theaters, who are in the plays 5 that often come to public venues, and I came up 6 with Martin Lawrence. I can't remember what the 7 name is of the individual -- Shanaynay. That's a first. That's now in the record. 8 9 Tyler Perry, Big Momma, number of 10 movies, family oriented, but at times there are 11 suggestive scenes or comments or movements in that 12 Red Skelton -- now I was a little boy when 13 I was watching Red Skelton, for those who are 14 trying to date me. Flip Wilson. Geraldine. 15 From my understanding of the amended 16 bill, the amendment on House Bill Number 0009, all 17 of those would be forbidden and they would be 18 committing -- I think you moved it to a type A 19 misdemeanor. All of them would -- would be 20 breaking the law once this bill passes. 21 And I just don't understand why we had 22 to put language in that spoke to male or female 2.3 It just doesn't make sense to me. impersonators. 2.4 I've gotten in most of what I wanted to say so I 25 would be interested in hearing your response, sir.

1 CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd? 2 REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Thank you, Mr. 3 Speaker. 4 I would clarify for the members that 5 the wording in that paragraph is copied out 6 word-for-word out of the current law that we have 7 on the books. We haven't created any new language 8 in that paragraph, maybe by adding an "S" or 9 something; similar entertainers, maybe. But the 10 rest of that is copied straight out of the law. 11 As a matter of fact, this amendment 12 that we had that makes the bill, there was a -- in 13 the senate version, there was one phrase there that 14 was left out of what the current law has and so we 15 added that back in to make it, again, consistent 16 for what's been on the books for literally decades 17 that was passed long before this majority was in 18 place. 19 So that's been there. That was what we 20 dealt with this past summer in my community. 2.1 That's what folks went to when they looked up what 22 can be done about this type of performance in front 2.3 of our children and saw that and said, wait a 2.4 minute. How can we have such a thing in this 25 community in a public park when it clearly says

```
1
    "male and female impersonators cannot be in those
 2.
    locations?" And so that's what started the whole
 3
    discussion around the law and around this
 4
    particular advertised performance and what we could
 5
    do about it.
 6
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 7
    Hardaway --
 8
                REPRESENTATIVE HARDAWAY:
                                           Thank you.
 9
                And I think you just told me that male
10
    or female impersonators is in current law.
11
    asking a question right now. I'm going to wait
12
    until I get to the end of my time before I ask
13
    another question. But I, myself, actually had a
14
    bill that I took over from Curry Todd as a matter
15
    of fact that dealt with adult cabarets. I don't
16
    remember seeing that language, and I still would
17
    say to you to hold out the "male or female"
18
    impersonators" in this listing of topless dancers
19
    and exotic dancers and strippers. I say that that
2.0
    unfairly puts them in the --
2.1
                (Microphone turned off.)
22
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
2.3
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                       Thank you,
2.4
    Mr. Speaker.
25
                I renew my motion.
```

1 CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Thank you. 2 Representative Freeman? 3 Thank you, REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN: 4 Mr. Speaker. 5 I'm going to follow along some of the 6 lines of my colleagues. It troubles me that we are 7 including male and female impersonators in the same 8 light as a -- as a stripper. And, you know, there 9 are several organizations and restaurants here in 10 Nashville that do, you know, a Sunday drag brunch 11 that is not sexual in nature, that is normalizing 12 the transgender community, that is showing those 13 that come from your community and from all across 14 our state that they have a place in our state. 15 by somehow trying to -- not somehow -- but by 16 trying to outlaw their existence, we are further 17 traumatizing Tennesseans. 18 And I guess my guestion to you -- and I 19 would ask for brevity. I don't know if I'm going 2.0 to get it. But my question to you is what is wrong 2.1 with a transgender person that we need to create a 22 law that makes it so they cannot be in public in 2.3 front of children? Why is it a problem for a child 2.4 to simply be in the presence of a transgender 25 person? And I would also challenge the fact that

```
1
    someone is impersonating a male or a female or if
 2
    they are -- if they are transgender and/or in drag
 3
    because I don't believe that they are
 4
    impersonating. I believe that they -- they feel
 5
    like that is who they are and why do we need to
 6
    tell me who they can be?
 7
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman
8
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Mr. Speaker, the
    language in this is very clear and it is literally
 9
10
    copied out of the definitions that we already have.
11
    So this hang-up with male and female impersonators
12
    we've had on the books for decades. Previous
13
    legislatures passed that. This is just copied out
14
    of that and using that definition to expand on it
15
    and clarify, again, from based on my experience in
16
    our community and what we dealt with with that
17
    definition.
18
                So we wanted to make sure that it was
19
   very clear going forward what would be and would
2.0
    not be caught in this. And as I stated earlier,
2.1
    this actual -- the other entertainers that are
22
    mentioned here and then the words "similar
2.3
    entertainers" defined as "entertainment within an
2.4
    adult-oriented establishment," and then we get into
25
    what's harmful to minors. We've added that as
```

```
1
    clarity to this so that we don't catch folks that
 2
    are just expressing their First Amendment rights
 3
    walking down the street or something.
 4
                So this is -- this is not going in the
    direction, I don't believe, where you were thinking
 5
 6
          I think it actually is making it more clear
 7
    to everyone to be able to understand this.
8
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 9
    Freeman?
10
                REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN:
                                          Thank you.
11
                And I appreciate the answer but, again,
12
    I'm going to ask you a direct question.
13
                So if somebody is having an all-age
14
    drag brunch and there is no nudity, under this law,
15
    is that required to be an 18-and-up establishment
16
    if it's -- because you keep saying "an
17
    adult-oriented establishment," and I'm not sure --
18
    I'm not sure I understand that term.
19
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd?
20
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Thank you, Mr.
21
    Speaker.
22
                So as it lays out, it lays out what an
2.3
    adult cabaret entertainment is in the first
2.4
    paragraph, A. Then in the next section,
25
    "entertainer" defines that and it's entertainment
```

```
1
    within an adult-oriented establishment."
 2
    means "a performance of actual or simulated
 3
    specified sexual activities involving removing of
 4
    articles of clothing or appearing unclothed
 5
    regardless of whether a fee is charged or not," and
 6
    "it's harmful to minors."
 7
                I mean, this fits into, again, what
 8
    we've already had into our law -- in our law for
 9
    decades and just clarifies so that it's very clear
10
    to performers and average citizens as to what is
11
    allowed.
12
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
13
    Freeman?
14
                REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN: Thank you for
15
    that.
16
                So I'm going to take that as a "yes"
17
    then that if you were just having a drag brunch at
18
    a restaurant here in Nashville that that would be
19
    allowed.
20
                I just want to say one quick thing in
21
    six seconds. We're missing this. We need to be
22
    accepting of all Tennesseans, and I hope
2.3
    that every- --
2.4
                (Microphone turned off.)
25
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Let the journal
```

```
1
    reflect Leader Camper is excused.
 2
                Representative Jones, you are
 3
    recognized.
 4
                REPRESENTATIVE JONES:
                                        Thank you,
 5
   Mr. Speaker.
 6
                I was going to rise today and talk
 7
    about how this bill is a solution in search of a
 8
    problem, but I believe my colleagues on the other
 9
    side of the aisle already know that. This is about
10
    erasing a group of people. It is about
11
                    It's about waging a. cultural war.
    fearmongering.
12
    It's about manufacturing a crisis to distract from
13
    the failures of this majority to do the will of
14
    everyday Tennesseans and many of you know that.
15
                Because the truth be told, if we wanted
16
    to address the issue of obscenity and what is
17
    harmful to minors, my colleagues on the other side
18
    of the aisle would not need a bill in the House of
19
    Representatives. What they would need is a mirror.
20
                It is this majority that until last
21
    year defended a member from Waynesboro who admitted
22
    to being a child molester when he was a coach.
                                                     Ιt
2.3
    was my members on the other side of the aisle, my
2.4
    colleague who defended a speaker, the former
25
    speaker, despite his continuous acts of lewd and
```

```
1
    inappropriate behavior, including with interns.
 2
    was my colleagues on the other side of the aisle
 3
    who defended a president who talked about grabbing
 4
    women inappropriately with no shame.
 5
                And so if we want to look --
 6
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
 7
    Jones, if you'd like to stay on the bill, that would
 8
   be great.
               If you go off the bill, then we will have
 9
    this little debate back and forth. So please stay
10
    on the bill. Thank you.
11
                Representative Jones?
12
                REPRESENTATIVE JONES: Thank you,
13
    Mr. Speaker.
14
                This bill is about obscenity and things
15
    that are harmful to children. That is what I am
16
    staying on, Mr. Speaker.
17
                If we want to look at what is seriously
18
    harmful to children, let's have a bill to ban
19
    children from going to these bible camps where they
20
    are being sexually assaulted with the Southern
21
    Baptist Convention. Let's go after real threats to
22
    our youth. Let's go after the predator behavior in
2.3
    your own districts, clergy in your own
2.4
    congregations harming youth. Weekly we read about
25
    this in the news, my colleagues.
```

1 My colleagues, I'm saying this to just 2 say let's be serious about what this is about. 3 Let's be serious about what's at stake here. 4 want to quote a drag queen and LGBTQ activist and 5 an icon from the Stonewall uprising, Marsha P. 6 Johnson, who stated, "How many years does it take 7 for people to see that we're all brothers and 8 sisters and human beings in the human race?" 9 may not agree with going to drag shows. 10 don't -- no one is forcing you to go, but don't try 11 to erase a whole identity of people because of 12 hatred and bigotry in your heart. 13 We are constitutionally sworn to take 14 an oath to vote against any legislation that is 15 injurious to the people. Attacks on freedom of 16 expression are injurious to the people. Violating 17 constitutional rights, injurious to the people. 18 Scapegoating and instigating violence against a 19 group of people, injurious to the people. 20 And so I urge my colleagues -- I know 21 your leadership has told you to vote on this bill 22 but vote according to what you know is right. 2.3 according to what your district knows is not an 2.4 This is not no -- I've gotten multiple 25 calls about this bill from East Nashville to

```
1
   Antioch, across my district, hundreds of calls; not
 2
    one person supported this bill. Until this was
 3
    filed, no one even knew this was an issue until the
 4
    sponsor made it one.
 5
                And so, colleagues, I ask you to just
 6
    do something right. Be on the right side of
 7
    history. Let's be about the issues that are
 8
    serious to everyday Tennesseans who are suffering
 9
    from denied health care, poverty wages, poor public
10
    education systems. Let's not make issues just to
11
    win cheap political points. Let's not manufacture
12
    crisis just so that we can give ourselves a
13
    platform to distract Tennesseans from the failures
14
    of this majority.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
16
    Jones, you're off the bill. We're moving to the
17
    next one.
18
                Representative Clemmons, you're
19
    recognized.
20
                REPRESENTATIVE CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr.
21
    Speaker. Thank you, sponsor.
22
                I appreciate my previous colleague's
2.3
    sentiments about this and the targeting. You know,
2.4
    often -- though we disagree with legislation, we
25
    try to find the true intent and perhaps the love in
```

1 a piece of legislation, but I don't see any love in 2 this legislation. I see hate. And so in addition 3 to that, my concern with this is the breadth of the 4 language, Mr. Sponsor. And the breadth of this 5 language takes direct aim at the local economy of 6 It takes direct aim at the entertainers 7 within my city. It takes direct aim with those 8 small businesses in my community. 9 And so the language of this bill --10 now, I don't know if you've ever attended a Beyoncé 11 concert. Something tells me you haven't. Or a 12 Harry Styles concert or a Lizzo concert or Madonna 13 concert -- your language prohibiting -- and the 14 breadth, the vagueness in this bill would prohibit 15 those entertainers from performing in my city. 16 would prohibit Beyoncé, the Queen Bee herself who 17 is coming to Nashville this year, this bill would 18 allow me as a district attorney, by the plain 19 language of this bill, to arrest Beyoncé. 20 Is that your intended goal here? 21 CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd? 22 REPRESENTATIVE TODD: Thank you, Mr. 2.3 Speaker. 2.4 It is so interesting to me to hear the 25 opposition to this very simple common sense bill.

```
1
    Most of you in this room know exactly what this
 2
    does. You know it's common sense. Anyone that
 3
    would stand against a bill that is going to prevent
 4
    minors, children, from seeing obscene sexual
 5
    activity, I don't know how you claim to be
 6
                          This is common sense.
    representing anyone.
 7
    is protecting children first and foremost. We
 8
    can -- folks have made up things about this.
 9
    dreamed up things about this. We've got, you know,
10
    media weighing in on it from all over the world
11
    without reading it, without really looking at what
12
    it means. It does exactly what I said it does,
13
    very plain and simple. And I would think an
14
    attorney, of all people, would be able to read this
15
    and certainly understand how simple it is.
16
                Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
17
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
18
    Clemmons?
19
                Out of order.
20
                Representative Clemmons?
21
                REPRESENTATIVE CLEMMONS:
                                           Thank you,
22
    Mr. Speaker.
2.3
                You know, it's interesting.
                                            We can
2.4
    find common ground here. Nobody wants a minor in
25
    an establishment with a stripper. There are laws
```

1 prohibiting that. But your language here, as a 2. lawyer, that features -- any entertainment that 3 features a topless dancer -- you could have male 4 topless dancers. I mean, I quess we're not going 5 to swimming pools anymore if males aren't allowed 6 to take their shirts off. So you got male topless 7 dancers performing in a public venue and that may 8 or may not have actual or simulated sexual 9 activities remove -- or included the removal of 10 articles of clothing, such as a t-shirt. 11 I mean, you -- you could have a 12 child -- I don't know if you've been to Ascend 13 Amphitheater. You can watch performances from the 14 street without entering that venue. So you could 15 have a 16-year-old walking up the street looking in 16 a concert -- Beyoncé, Harry Styles, Lizzo -- any --17 most any entertainer. And then you're going to 18 allow a district attorney to go down there and 19 arrest that entertainer. You are taking direct aim 20 at Music City USA just because you subjectively may 2.1 not agree with it. 22 Now, we talk a lot in this body about 2.3 protecting constitutional amendments. So if you 2.4 want to have the plain language of the Second 25 Amendment protected then you better want to have

```
1
    the plain language of the First Amendment
 2
    protected, because you can have constitutionally
 3
    recognized exceptions but you cannot exclude
 4
    individual classes of people because you
 5
    subjectively disagree with them or hate them.
 6
    is unconstitutional. Your language is vague and
 7
    it's overly broad. This will not stand up in
    court. You have wasted all of our time here today
 8
 9
    by promoting this legislation.
10
                I would ask that you at least make the
11
    effort as an attorney to clean this up to bring it
12
    within constitutional muster so you're not
13
    attacking my local economy.
14
                Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman Todd,
16
    you're recognized.
17
                REPRESENTATIVE TODD:
                                       Thank you, Mr.
18
    Speaker.
19
                I think the language is extremely
20
            We've had multiple attorneys look over
2.1
    this.
           They think it's extremely solid. I'm very
22
    confident, very confident our Attorney General can
2.3
    stand behind this and defend this without question.
2.4
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Representative
25
    Zachary?
```

1 REPRESENTATIVE ZACHARY: Thank you, 2 Mr. Speaker. 3 Members, I had not planned on speaking 4 on this bill but after hearing all of the comments 5 I thought it was appropriate to provide some actual 6 context. 7 So in Knox County we had a drag show, a 8 family-friendly drag show that was set to be at the 9 Tennessee Theatre. There was a Christmas drag 10 Video surfaced of this show that showed 11 stripping, simulating of sexual acts, and 12 inappropriate touching. 13 And so because of that, the mayor and I 14 engaged the facility. There were some compromises 15 made but then some videos surfaced that showed 16 exactly what went on in this drag show. And I'm 17 extremely thankful for TBI Director Rausch, who is 18 the former chief of police in Knox County, for 19 engaging and actually bringing the promoter on, the 20 promoter agreeing with the director's assessment, 2.1 and then agreeing to scale down that show to make 22 it appropriate for children, which is exactly why 2.3 this bill is needed; to ensure that those acts 2.4 don't continue in front of children because that 25 same show two days or three days after Christmas

1 was conducted in Florida without that same filter 2. and those restrictions and now the state of Florida 3 is investigating those because there was simulation 4 of sexual acts, stripping and exposure, and 5 inappropriate touching. 6 And let's be really clear, really 7 We as the legislature, we have the ability 8 per our Constitution to deem what is inappropriate. 9 And my guess is when we vote and put this on the 10 board and when we vote on another bill that we put 11 on the board these were all conversations that 12 happened during the election cycle. 13 And I need to remind this body and my 14 colleagues we picked up two additional seats in the 15 house and the governor, who's a Republican 16 governor, increased his percentage. So we talked 17 many times about a mandate from the voters. 18 have a mandate from the voters. They agree with us 19 in protecting children and that's exactly what this 2.0 bill does. 21 So I remind my colleagues when we vote 22 here and we vote now and we're voting on this bill, 2.3 it is about protecting children. 2.4 Thank you, Mr. Speaker. 25 Thank you, Representative Todd, for

```
1
    your boldness in carrying this bill.
 2
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Out of order.
 3
                Representative Bulso?
                REPRESENTATIVE BULSO:
 4
                                        Thank you, Mr.
 5
    Speaker.
 6
                I've heard three statements made this
 7
    morning that I wish to comment on.
                                         The first is
    the statement on the bill. The second has to do
 8
 9
    with the Constitution and the third has to do with
10
   hate.
11
                First, it's the obligation of every
12
   member of this body to read and understand the
13
    bills that come before it. When we look at Section
14
    1(a) of Senate Bill 0003, we see that adult cabaret
15
    entertainment is defined to mean "adult-oriented
16
    performances that are harmful to minors" as that
17
    term is defined in 39-17-901.
18
                That provision has been ignored by
19
    every question lodged this morning.
2.0
    actually look at 39-17-901, subsection 6, it
2.1
    provides a definition as to what is harmful to
22
    minors, and it provides for three things.
2.3
                One, the conduct has to be prurient.
2.4
    It has to appeal to prurient sexual interests.
25
    Number two, it has to be patently offensive. And
```

1 then third, it can have no redeeming, scientific, 2 or artistic value. 3 Now, we didn't just make those terms 4 up. That's the three-part Miller test coming from our U.S. Supreme Court in 1973 in Miller versus 5 6 And when you look at Senate Bill 0003, California. 7 it defines adult cabaret entertainment to include conduct that is harmful to minors and -- it doesn't 8 9 say "or," it says "and" -- the conduct has to be 10 obscene as defined by the U.S. Supreme Court in 11 Miller versus California and it has to involve 12 topless dancers, go-go dancers and other things. 13 So this idea that somehow just 14 appearing in public as a male or if you're a female 15 or Flip Wilson impersonating Geraldine has nothing 16 to do with this bill. Because to be unlawful, the 17 conduct, first, has to be obscene as defined by the 18 U.S. Supreme Court and through 39-17-901, codified 19 in Tennessee. And then second, it has to involve 20 topless dancing, go-go dancers, or other such 2.1 things. That's point number one on the bill. Look 22 at the bill, read the bill. 2.3 Point number two, the Constitution that 2.4 you just heard about. This bill is completely 25 constitutional. It is -- it reeks with

```
1
    constitutionality under the First Amendment because
 2.
    it incorporates the tests that our Supreme Court
 3
    adopted in 1973.
 4
                The third point is hate. Let me say
    this about hate and this attitude of intolerance
 5
 6
    that is taking over our country, this dictatorship
 7
    of relativism. This bill is not born in hate.
    This bill is born out of love to protect the
 8
 9
    innocence of children, and I am proud to stand with
10
    Representative Todd to support it.
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Out of order.
11
12
                Representative Warner?
13
                REPRESENTATIVE WARNER:
                                         Mr. Speaker, I
14
    call for previous question.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton):
                                         The previous
16
    question has been called.
17
                Any objection?
18
                We will go on the board. That's fine.
19
    We're voting on previous question.
20
                All of those in favor, vote "aye" when
21
    the bell rings; opposed, "no."
22
                Has every member voted?
2.3
                Does any member wish to change their
2.4
    vote?
25
                Mr. Clerk, please take the vote.
```

```
1
                MR. CLERK: Ayes 74; 20 nays.
 2
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton):
                                         The previous
 3
    questions prevails.
 4
                Let the journal reflect that
 5
    Representative Beck is excused.
 6
                We are voting.
 7
                All of those in favor of Senate Bill
    0003 as amended, vote "aye" when the bell rings.
 8
 9
    Those opposed, vote "no."
10
                Has every member voted?
11
                Does any member wish to change their
12
    vote?
13
                Mr. Clerk, please take the vote.
14
                MR. CLERK: Ayes 74; 19 nays.
15
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Senate Bill
16
    0003, having received the constitutional majority, I
17
    hereby declare it passed without objection.
18
                Motion to reconsider is tabled.
19
                Call up the next bill, Mr. Clerk.
20
                 (WHEREUPON, the Clerk called the next
2.1
    Senate Bill.)
22
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Oh, Chairman
2.3
    Clemmons, you're recognized.
2.4
    ///
25
                REPRESENTATIVE CLEMMONS:
                                            Thank you,
```

```
1
   Mr. Speaker.
 2
                The issue -- and I certainly understand
 3
    the members are -- and correct me if I'm wrong.
 4
    we not have a mechanism under the rules that we are
 5
    allowed to have someone recognized to correct a
 6
    misstatement made by someone else on the House
 7
    floor if it is a blatant, intentional
 8
   misrepresentation of the actual facts?
 9
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Mr. Clerk?
10
                MR. CLERK: Mr. Speaker, I believe what
11
    the member may be referring to is if a member's
12
    reputation has been called into question they would
13
    have a right or if their name is called they would
14
    have a right to respond. As far as to clear up any
15
    sort of record, that's not the case.
16
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): Chairman
17
    Clemmons?
18
                REPRESENTATIVE CLEMMONS:
                                           Thank you,
19
   Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate you entertaining the
20
    question on this parliamentary issue.
21
                I do find it unfortunate that we are
22
    unable that, if someone makes a blatant
2.3
   misrepresentation or misstatement of fact, that we
2.4
    do not have a mechanism whereby that could be
25
    corrected for the public record. I certainly would
```

```
1
   hate for this body to be tainted with blatant
 2
   misstatements in debate on an issue as important as
 3
    the last bill.
 4
                And I'm not speaking with regard to
    different interpretations of the Constitution or
 5
 6
    anything like that. I'm just -- simple facts about
 7
    where something took place and where it did not
 8
    take place. Those things matter for the record.
 9
    And so I'd just like for us to consider that in the
10
    future if we're able, Mr. Speaker.
11
                CHAIRMAN (Rep Sexton): We would have
12
    been on this bill for two hours on the other side
13
    misstating, according to what other people have
14
    said; so it goes both ways.
15
                But our policy is if you raise your
16
    hand, you go on the list. If you'd like to clear
17
    up someone's information, you have that right to go
18
    on the list. If someone calls your name, as the
19
    clerk says, then you're able to respond
20
    immediately, or if they impugn someone's reputation
2.1
    you have the right to immediately respond. Outside
22
    of that, we are in the process that we are in.
2.3
                        [END OF SESSION]
2.4
25
```

```
1
 2
    IN THE SENATE FLOOR SESSION - 13th LEGISLATION DAY
                 TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 3
                        March 2, 2023
 4
 5
 6
                (WHEREUPON, On the above date, there
 7
    came up for consideration in the Senate Floor
 8
    Session - 13th Legislation Day, Tennessee General
 9
    Assembly, Senate Bill 0003, sponsored by
10
    Representative Todd and others. Discussion
11
    pertaining to this bill was as follows):
12
13
                MR. CLERK: Item Number 1, Senate Bill
14
    0003 by Senator Johnson for consideration of House
15
    Amendment Number 1.
16
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Leader
17
    Johnson?
18
                SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you,
19
    Mr. Speaker.
20
                The House amendment differs from the
21
    version of this bill that we passed. It revises
2.2
    part of the definition of "entertainer" by
23
    replacing "a provision of adult cabaret
24
    entertainment" with a provision of "a performance
25
    of an actual or simulated specified activities,
```

```
1
    regardless of whether a fee is charged or accepted
 2
    for the performance and regardless of whether the
 3
    performance is provided by an employee or an
 4
    independent contractor."
 5
                I move to concur.
 6
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Motion is
 7
    to concur.
                Discussion?
 8
 9
                I see none.
10
                We'll be voting on a concurrence motion
11
    on Senate Bill 0001. All of those in favor of
12
    concurrence will vote "aye" -- excuse me -- Senate
13
    Bill 0003.
14
                All of those in favor of concurrence
15
    with Amendment Number 1 will vote "aye" when the
16
    bell rings. Those opposed will vote "no."
17
                Let every member cast their vote when
18
    the bill rings.
19
                Has every member voted?
20
                Does any member wish to change their
2.1
    vote?
22
                Mr. Clerk, take the vote.
2.3
                MR. CLERK: Ayes 26; 6 nays.
2.4
                CHAIRMAN (Senator McNally): Senate Bill
25
    0003, having conferred -- having conferred in
```

```
Amendment Number 1 is adopted.
 1
                 Without objection, the motion to
 2
 3
    reconsider is hereby tabled.
 4
                      END OF TRANSCRIPTION
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 2 STATE OF TENNESSEE 3 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY 4 I, D. ROCHELLE KOENES, Licensed Court 5 Reporter, with offices in Clarksville, Tennessee, 6 7 hereby certify that I transcribed the foregoing video recordings of Senate Bill 0003, by machine 8 9 shorthand to the best of my skills and abilities, 10 and thereafter the same was reduced to typewritten 11 form by me. 12 I am not related to any of the parties 13 named herein, nor their counsel, and have no 14 interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome of 15 the proceedings. 16 I further certify that in order for this document to be considered a true and correct copy, 17 it must bear my original signature, and that any unauthorized reproduction in whole or in part 18 and/or transfer of this document is not authorized, will not be considered authentic, and will be in violation of Tennessee Code Annotated 39-14-104, 19 Theft of Services. 20 21 22 D. ROCHELLE KOENES, RPR, LCR 23 Veteran Court Reporting Court Reporter 24 LCR # 689 - Expires: 6/30/2021 25

\$	1973 94:5 95:3	8	47:1 56:10,21 57:2 58:6 83:25
\$13 22:8	2	8th 32:2,8	91:11,23 92:4
\$3 22:13	2 99:4	otii 52.2,0	actual 40:18 71:24 80:21 82:2
φ3 22.13	20 23:3 24:13 96:1	9	89:8 91:5 97:8
(200 22:10	0.04.00.00.4	99:25
() 00 0	2023 3:4 30:4 32:4	9 24:23 32:4	add 27:14 58:7
(a) 69:6	62:4 99:4	901 71:12	added 77:15 80:25
(b) 69:18	23 62:4	9th 62:2,8	adding 23:25 77
(C) 69:21	26 61:3 100:23	Α	addition 87:2
0			additional 59:14
	3	ABC 23:6	92:14
0001 100:11 0003 3:9,17 4:22	30 57:18	ability 24:12 43:20 92:7	address 36:18 43:2 83:16
30:9 31:4,7 32:9,	3058 4:10 33:5	Absent 71:1	addresses 71:7
14,18 33:15 58:24 59:13 61:5 62:9,	31 3:4 47:19	absolutely 38:15	adhering 49:2
21,23 63:3,6	39-17-901 6:1,14 8:21 12:4 34:25	56:5	admitted 83:21
64:14 68:5 93:14 94:6 96:8,16 99:9,	37:23 46:11 69:2	absurdity 41:24	adopted 61:6
14 100:13,25	93:17,20 94:18	abuse 6:5 12:13 14:13 15:5,20	95:3 101:1
0009 62:13 76:16	4	35:8 44:12 69:6	adoption 31:11
		abusing 54:5	37:3 63:17,21,24
1	4 15:7	acceptable	adult 5:11,12 8:1 14:16,18 15:23
1 30:14 31:11,14		52:17,18	16:17 18:15 19:1
32:24 33:5 63:11, 18,21,25 64:13	5	accepted 66:24 100:1	22:22 23:7 24:10 27:5,6 34:3 35:18
75:22 99:13,15	5 24:23	accepting 14:18	49:3 60:14 64:25
100:15 101:1		15:1 82:22	66:22 67:2 68:16 69:19 71:7,9 72:5
1(a) 93:14	6	accurate 37:20	73:17 78:15 81:2 93:14 94:7 99:23
13 22:11	6 30:4 93:20	accusations	adult-cabaret
13th 99:2,8	100:23	34:22	72:6
16 49:20	60 22:12	acknowledge 27:18	adult-oriented
16-year-old 89:15		acted 15:17	4:24 5:4,9 33:16, 22 34:1 48:11
17 15:7	7	activist 85:4	49:6 62:14 64:16
17-year-old	7-51 48:11	activities 55:24	20,23 66:23 68:6 11,14 69:25
49:20,24	7-51-1401 27:6	67:3 71:25 82:3	71:10,20 72:7
18 38:25 74:11	74 96:1,14	89:9 99:25	80:24 81:17 82:1 93:15
18-and-up 81:15	7th 30:2,8	activity 49:9 58:12 74:6 88:5	adult-themed 5
19 96:14		acts 12:23 15:12	8:12 10:7,8,17
1920's 41:15		19:12 23:2 28:2,3 34:16 38:22 39:3	27:15

adults 16:4 21:6.7 46:15 12,14 attacks 42:23 85:15 advantageous amended 4:22 applies 5:19 42:15 26:9 32:22 33:14 34:10 37:22 51:10 attempting 41:25 59:12 64:14 68:5 60:9,19 65:5 advertised 78:4 attended 87:10 76:15 96:8 68:22 advocate 14:8 attending 5:5 amendment 3:18 apply 10:17 11:11 advocates 15:25 4:3,5,7,9,10,19 40:24 44:3,4,7,23, attention 16:25 30:22,23 31:11,14 24 46:8 72:9,14 affirmation 16:25 attire 41:15 45:21 32:19,24 33:5,7, applying 6:8 11,14 37:4 41:11 afringe 45:23,25 attitude 95:5 12:13 35:13 36:4 52:15 53:9 58:24, afternoon 3:15 44:14 48:15 49:3 attorney 53:3 25 59:4 63:9,16, 23:16 60:10 69:7 87:18 88:14 89:18 18,21,23,25 64:4, 90:11,22 13 70:13 76:16 area 10:22 27:24 age 5:5,16 10:11 77:11 81:2 89:25 36:15 33:23 34:8 64:21 attorneys 10:3 90:1 95:1 99:15, 65:3 68:12,19 90:20 arguably 41:23 20 100:15 101:1 audible 4:14 age-restricted argument 57:13 amendments 4:25 33:18 36:20 audience 7:13 64:6 89:23 arisen 9:10 64:17 68:7 16:18 America 14:13 Arkansas 52:13 ages 15:7 August 20:13 Amphitheater arrest 24:21 56:6 aggravate 51:25 average 6:7 12:13 89:13 87:19 89:19 35:13 44:13 60:10 aggressively anal 55:23 arrested 24:8 69:7 82:10 22:25 56:10 66:9,13 and/or 80:2 agree 13:4 50:20 aware 21:4 26:21 article 21:6 51:14 52:21,22,25 ankles 41:17 aye 4:10,11 28:24 53:6 85:9 89:21 **articles** 67:4.10 29:1,3,5,7,9,11 annual 22:13 72:8 92:18 82:4 89:10 59:1,5,6 60:23 agreeing 91:20, answers 70:1 63:25 64:1 95:20 artistic 35:22 21 96:8 100:12,15 Antioch 86:1 38:21 50:6 54:8, ahead 7:20 9:1 18 55:2 60:17 ayes 4:16 29:13 antithesis 42:15 69:22 94:2 26:4 56:1 59:9,11 61:3 64:3 anymore 89:5 96:1,14 100:23 artists 11:6 **aim** 87:5,6,7 89:19 **anytime** 51:12,13 aisle 83:9,18,23 arts 52:9 В apologize 20:20 84:2 **Ascend** 89:12 appalled 36:11 **AKA** 18:7 bachelorette ascertain 45:9 53:24 12:19 **Akbari** 43:11,12 assaulted 84:20 45:4,5 46:22,23 appalling 54:10 **back** 3:16 12:6 Assembly 3:2,8 25:20 44:21,25 apparent 42:7 alarmed 42:6 30:2,9 32:2,9 53:13 56:11 77:15 Alcoholic 23:1 62:2,9 99:2,9 appeal 6:8 12:14 84:9 34:11,15 35:14,15 assessment align 42:10 Backdoor 20:17 44:14 60:11 65:9. 91:20 11 69:1,8 93:24 all-age 81:13 backyard 48:21 associations appearing 67:4 allowed 5:17 **Bailey** 58:16,17 21:8 82:4 94:14 25:11 37:16 54:25 **ban** 6:20 34:22,23 attack 57:6 60:1 65:4 68:21 82:11, applaud 25:3 84:18 19 89:5 97:5 attacking 90:13 applied 8:11 Baptist 54:5 allowing 15:2 39:14 40:5 41:2, 84:21

bare 11:5 56:1 57:5.14.17 **breadth** 87:3,4,14 calendar 3:13 29:15 30:14 58:2,8,24 59:12, **based** 7:23 11:11 breaking 76:20 13,22,25 60:3,4,6, 23:21 80:15 California 94:6, 8,19,24 61:4 62:9, brevity 79:19 11 baseline 51:8 11,13,15,21,23 briefly 5:25 63:3,6,16 64:14, **call** 28:17 51:11 basically 34:25 22 65:5,13,20 **bring** 9:10 43:17 58:18 63:9 95:14 38:22 48:20 66:11,21 68:5,13, 96:19 54:25 90:11 **basis** 53:25 22 71:8,19 73:4 **called** 16:11 **bringing** 27:13,14 75:2 76:16,20 20:17 52:8 58:20, **bawdy** 50:3 32:19 54:24 57:16 77:12 78:14 83:7, 91:19 23 59:15 95:16 18 84:7,8,10,14, **Beck** 96:5 96:20 97:12,13 18 85:21,25 86:2, broad 90:7 **Bee** 87:16 16 87:9,14,17,19, calling 75:24 Broadway 12:20 25 88:3 91:4,23 begin 10:1 calls 9:22,23 92:10.20.22 93:1. **broke** 41:4 beginning 42:1 85:25 86:1 98:18 8,14 94:6,16,21, broken 41:6 22,24 95:7,8 96:7, Campbell 39:6,8, behavior 14:18 15,19,21 98:3,12 brothers 85:7 13,24,25 40:16,17 15:11 16:18 21:15 99:9,11,13,21 23:21 42:7 52:17 Campbells 41:19 **brought** 7:10 8:7 100:11,13,18,24 53:2 54:8,23 84:1, 27:3 51:21 52:13, **Camper** 83:1 **bills** 14:1 16:20 14 93:13 behaviors 14:21 camps 84:19 **brunch** 43:16,18 16:14 23:3 24:1 **bingo** 43:16 79:10 81:14 82:17 **campus** 20:15 **beings** 85:8 **Bird** 42:18 brunches 24:14 campy 22:19 **bell** 59:1 95:21 birthday 24:3 cancel 43:4 building 7:11 96:8 100:16 **bit** 7:7 10:13 31:2 **Bulso** 93:3.4 canceling 55:14 beloved 42:22 56:25 **blatant** 97:7,22 **burqa** 42:3 Beverage 23:1 98:1 care 43:2 86:9 **bus** 23:10,13,15 **Beyoncé** 87:10, blatantly 12:22 **career** 52:21,22 16,19 89:16 **business** 5:13,15 53:6 **board** 60:22 8:2 23:4,10 25:6 **bible** 84:19 92:10,11 95:18 careers 52:21 34:4.18 36:25 **Big** 76:9 65:1.2 68:9.17.19 53:7 55:15 **body** 41:16 53:25 54:6 89:22 92:13 Carnicus 49:25 bigotry 85:12 **businesses** 5:3 93:12 98:1 22:5,7,11,14 **bill** 3:9,10,17,19, carry 59:10,11 33:21 64:19 68:10 boldness 93:1 21,23 4:1,6,8,17, 87:8 carrying 93:1 19,22 5:8,19 6:15, **books** 13:15 case 34:14 52:13, 24,25 7:1 8:1,10 27:12 39:21 40:14 С 15 65:10 97:15 9:10 12:8 13:23 48:5 65:25 67:22 17:18,21 18:11 77:7,16 80:12 cast 22:16 100:17 23:14,17 25:9,22 cabaret 8:18 **born** 95:7,8 catch 81:1 26:8,9,20,25 22:22 23:7 24:11 27:14 28:9 29:15 27:5,7 71:7,9 **Boro** 19:4,13 category 23:18 30:9,11,20,22 73:18 74:16,20 **bound** 22:24 31:2,4,7 32:9,11, cater 22:6 81:23 93:14 94:7 14,17,20 33:6,14, 99:23 **boy** 38:8 49:20,24 caught 80:20 15,25 34:10,15, 76:12 cabaret' 27:7 21,22,23 36:19,23 **caused** 21:12 **boys** 49:18 39:5 48:10 50:15 cabarets 78:15 celebrated 14:19 51:21 53:23 **brain** 15:16 calculable 17:7 54:12,23 55:9

	I		
center 52:9	charges 40:12	cities 10:10 24:19	100:22,23
ceremony 41:22	cheap 86:11	citing 48:4	clever 22:20
chairman 3:12,	check 28:7	citizens 25:7	clock 22:1
15,19,22 4:4,12,	checked 54:6	42:22 43:5 51:11	close 59:17
16,21 5:2,18,25 6:11,20,25 7:3,19,	cheerleader	82:10	closing 59:20
21 8:25 10:23,25	23:16 49:18,22	city 74:2,3 87:6,7, 15 89:20	clothes 17:2 21:9
11:23 12:1 13:17, 19,20 16:22	cheerleaders	civil 25:3	
17:10,16,17 18:3,	12:19		clothing 11:5,7 16:4,17 21:7
19 19:6,19 20:5,7,	Chicago 24:7	civility 25:2,5	23:22 67:4,10
8,10 21:1,17,20 22:4 24:16 25:10,	chief 91:18	claim 88:5	82:4 89:10
19,23 26:1,3,13,	child 14:9,11,12,	clap 21:6,10	club 38:6
17,25 28:9,11,13,	22 15:3,5,24	clapping 21:8	co-owner 22:4
25 29:12,17 30:16,21 31:6,13,	16:20 18:16 20:24 48:16,18,19,22,23	claps 16:19	coach 83:22
21 32:13,21 33:1,	56:4 57:3 58:7	clarification 7:23	code 4:10 6:7,12
2,8 37:5,9,17 38:1,11,16 39:11,	65:12 79:23 83:22 89:12	17:25 38:4 43:13	8:17,19,23 9:21
16,23 40:6,15		51:23 72:5	12:6 33:5 35:2 46:19,24 47:16
43:10,22 45:3	childhood 14:23	clarifies 5:9 64:15,22 66:22	48:9 72:16
46:2,21 47:9 51:17,24 53:17	children 5:5,16 6:19,24 7:1 9:16,	68:6,13 82:9	codified 94:18
55:3 58:19 59:7,9	17 10:12,22 14:9,	clarify 4:23 10:16	coding 52:25
60:21 61:4 62:13, 17,22 63:1,5,12,	14,17 15:3,5,8,23	33:25 77:4 80:15	colleague 51:21
20 64:7,9 65:15,	16:3,6,9,14,16 17:7 18:1,6 19:18	clarity 70:22 81:1	83:24
18,19 66:2,4,10,	20:20,22 21:4,15	class 8:14,15	colleague's
15,20 67:6,13,16, 24 68:3 69:11,15	25:5 33:23 34:9 41:22 43:17 46:15	52:18	86:22
70:3,17 71:4 72:2,	50:22,24 52:23	classes 90:4	colleagues 79:6
11,22 73:1,5,9,14, 19 75:8,12 77:1	53:8 54:5 55:24	clean 90:11	83:8,17 84:2,25 85:1 86:5 92:14,
78:6,22 79:1 80:7	56:2,3,10,21 57:10,11,12,15	clear 5:18 7:24	21
81:8,19 82:12,25	58:4,6 64:22 65:4	12:21 15:9 26:25	colleagues
84:6 86:15 87:21 88:17 90:15,24	66:1,8,19 68:12, 21 72:19 74:6,11	33:15 56:12 72:15 74:14 80:9,19	85:20
93:2 95:11,15	77:23 79:23	81:6 82:9 90:20	Collectively 4:11,
96:2,15,22 97:9, 16 98:11 99:16	84:15,18,19 88:4,	92:6,7 97:14 98:16	14 59:6,8
100:6,24	7 91:22,24 92:19, 23 95:9	clears 64:14 68:5	college 54:21
challenge 79:25	chilling 70:8,14	Clemmons	combats 14:11
change 27:13	choice 23:22 53:6	86:18,20 88:18,	comedy 52:12
61:2 95:23 96:11	choose 19:25	20,21 96:23,25	comment 93:7
100:20	52:20	97:17,18	comments 10:6
changed 73:4	Christmas 91:9,	clergy 84:23	16:7 25:21 55:10 60:5 76:11 91:4
chapter 34:25 35:1	25	clerk 30:13 32:23, 24 60:25 61:3	Commission
	citation 23:4	62:13 63:9,10	23:1
charged 15:24 16:7 23:13 24:9	cite 6:13	64:4,5 95:25 96:1, 13,14,19,20 97:9,	committed 18:18
66:13,24 71:22	cited 50:16	13,14,19,20 97:9,	committee 3:2,8
82:5 100:1			

7:4 32:19,25 33:9, 13 63:11,18

committee's 7:2 28:10

committing 76:18

common 87:25 88:2,6,24

commonsense 7:1 65:12

communities 72:7

community 6:8 12:14 22:7 35:14, 19 41:13 42:21 44:14 55:15 60:10,14 69:8,19 73:22 74:1,9,23 77:20,25 79:12,13 80:16 87:8

communitybased 47:18

compelled 55:11

completely 94:24

component 40:25

compromises 91:14

concern 87:3

concerns 45:8 50:21

concert 87:11,12, 13 89:16

concerts 11:3,6

concur 100:5,7

concurrence 100:10,12,14

condemn 54:7

conduct 6:4 12:12 35:7 44:11 49:21 50:25 52:6 69:5 93:23 94:8,9,

conducted 92:1

conferred 100:25

confident 90:22

confirm 37:12

conform 62:20,23

confronted 28:1

confused 17:5

confusion 33:15 64:15 68:5

congregations 84:24

consequences 52:3

consideration 3:7 30:7,15 31:5, 19 32:7,18 35:25 62:7 63:4,7 99:7,

considered 5:20 8:24 11:8 13:5 41:20 52:11 65:6 68:23

14

consistent 8:22 77:15

constituent 43:14

constituents

36:13 43:1 45:9 46:7 47:4 57:23 58:1,2

Constitution

92:8 93:9 94:23 98:5

constitutional

48:2,3 61:5 85:17 89:23 90:12 94:25 96:16

constitutionality 95:1

constitutionally 85:13 90:2

contact 15:12

contacted 44:6

contemplated 47:17

contemporary

6:8 12:14 35:13 44:14 60:10 69:7 content 14:16

context 91:6

continue 11:19 69:15 91:24

continuing 21:14

continuous 83:25

contractor 100:4

contributed 22:7

controversial 50:17 51:3

Convention 54:6 84:21

conversations 10:2 92:11

conviction 56:15

copied 77:5,10 80:10,13

correct 37:19 38:15 48:1 66:1,3, 9 72:10 97:3,5

corrected 97:25

costing 55:15

costume 23:23

costumed 23:12

costumes 11:4 54:16

counsel 15:20

count 47:21

counties 49:16

country 16:2 19:1 36:11 95:6

county 44:5 47:23 59:21 91:7,18

couple 76:1

court 29:14 39:6 74:24 90:8 94:5, 10,18 95:2

courts 48:6

covered 42:7

create 79:21

created 15:14 77:7

creating 7:25

creative 41:8

crime 18:18 66:14

crimes 17:6

criminal 8:6 34:17 40:12,14 63:10.17

criminalized 54:10,22

criminalizing 53:2,10 55:2

crisis 17:4 83:12 86:12

cross-dressing 41:21

cross-reference 8:20

crossreferenced 13:14 34:24

cultural 83:11

current 4:23 5:2, 11,24 7:24 9:20 17:20 20:3 33:18, 20 34:3 36:3,6 64:19,25 68:9,16 74:16 77:6,14 78:10

Curry 78:14

curtailing 25:6

cycle 92:12

D

DA 56:6

dance 24:4 41:9 54:14,17,18,22

dancer 89:3

dancers 11:7 23:19,20 27:8 71:13 78:18,19 89:4,7 94:12,20

dancing 94:20

dangerous 51:7,	94:10,17	direction 81:5	73:24 79:10 80:2 81:14 82:17 85:4,
DAS 13:7 58:10	defines 12:24 23:24 45:7 69:2	Director 91:17	9 91:7,8,9,16
date 3:6 30:6 32:6	81:25 94:7	director's 91:20	drama 38:6
62:6 76:14 99:6	definition 7:25 8:1 27:5 34:21	disagree 86:24 90:5	dramatic 22:20
David 13:23	35:4 36:1,2,4	discovered 15:25	draws 24:15
21:23,25 22:4	37:23 45:1 49:15	discretion 11:14	dreamed 88:9
day 30:2,8 32:2,8 44:2,22 50:15,18	67:23 68:2 71:1, 11 72:1,6 74:15	13:4 19:22	dress 11:4 24:4,6 41:7,16
62:2,8 99:2,8	80:14,17 93:21 99:22	discussion 3:10, 25 30:10 31:2	dressed 11:13
days 91:25	definitions 6:1	32:10 37:5 57:18	26:23,24 37:13
DCS 54:1	12:3 69:24 80:10	59:14,19 62:10 63:23 65:20 78:3	45:21
deal 69:25	demand 14:13	99:10 100:8	dressing 38:9 56:23
dealing 12:9 48:7,	15:4	distanced 15:14	
8	denied 86:9	distract 83:12	drop 52:10
deals 26:25	depend 47:22	86:13	due 51:20 52:2
dealt 77:20 78:15 80:16	depiction 39:3	distractions 7:13 55:12,17	E
death 52:10	derived 9:9	distributed 49:5	- maila 0:04
debate 84:9 98:2	describe 4:19	district 10:3	e-mails 9:24 38:20 53:23 57:23
decades 13:15,16	description 6:3	43:15 45:20 47:21	earlier 12:8 80:20
23:8 27:12 76:3	12:10 35:6 69:3	54:13 85:23 86:1	
77:16 80:12 82:9	desensitization 14:24	87:18 89:18	early 14:15
decide 19:23 24:4 73:23	deserts 43:3	districts 84:23	easier 72:17
		documented	easily 41:14
decision 20:2	desk 62:16	16:3 18:24	East 85:25
decisions 13:9 18:11	determination 13:13	dollar 16:20 58:8	easy 50:1
	determine 72:13,	dollars 53:4 74:8	echo 59:20
declare 96:17 deem 13:1 92:8	18	Dolly 24:22,24 26:24	economy 87:5 90:13
deemed 51:3	dictatorship 95:6	donating 74:9	educate 14:15
deep 42:16 43:7	dictionary 74:19, 20	donations 74:8	education 43:2
deepest 57:21	-	door 28:7 39:2	86:10
defend 90:23	difference 18:9 52:5	Doubtfire 24:8	effect 70:8,14
defended 83:21,	differentiate	downtown 23:10	effectively 48:15
24 84:3	11:9,17	45:19	effort 42:5 74:10
defer 30:21 63:18	differs 99:20	drafting 4:10 33:5	90:11
define 67:18	digress 7:6	drag 22:12,17	elected 42:25
defined 5:22 6:17 8:16,19,23 44:8	direct 46:10 81:12 87:5,6,7 89:19	23:5,11,12 24:14 40:24,25 41:8,10	election 92:12 elements 41:10
46:13,24 52:4 71:12,18 74:18 80:23 93:15,17	directing 47:15	42:10 43:18 45:21 50:17 51:4,6 54:9 57:1 70:10,15	Elvis 24:4 26:23

employee 67:1 100:3

empowers 15:3

encourage 26:20 46:10

encourages

14:19

end 18:17 29:18 31:23 41:21 61:8 74:7 78:12 98:23 101:4

ended 48:2

endorsing 74:3

enforce 73:12

enforceable 40:24

enforced 23:1 39:15,20 40:5

enforcement

10:3 13:8 25:8 39:21 58:11 75:5

enforcing 72:25 73:3,8,13

engaged 91:14

engaging 91:19

engineer 52:24

enjoyous 22:20

ensure 5:15 6:23 65:3 68:19 91:23

entering 33:23 89:14

entertain 11:19

entertainer 34:16 71:17,18 72:1 81:25 89:17,19 99:22

entertainers

11:19 27:10 55:22 71:15 77:9 80:21. 23 87:6,15

entertaining

97:19

entertainment

5:4,7,10,12,14 6:16,21 8:13,18 9:15 10:8,12,14, 18.21 12:22 14:17 15:24 27:2,16 28:3,6 33:22 34:1, 3,7 35:12 36:14, 20,24 46:9 64:20, 23 65:1 66:22,25 67:1 68:11,14,16, 17 71:8,9,20 72:5, 6 80:23 81:23,25 89:2 93:15 94:7

entrance 64:22 68:12

equal 14:1

99:24

erase 85:11

erasing 83:10

escorted 17:14

essential 41:10

establishment

34:5 43:15 66:23 71:21 80:24 81:15,17 82:1 88:25

establishments

10:7,19 48:12 49:6 69:25

event 13:10 19:21,22 46:8,16, 17

events 16:1 43:21 72:8

every- 82:23

everyday 11:12 83:14 86:8

evidence 40:11

examples 9:6,9 26:22

exceptions 90:3

excess 35:7 44:11 69:5

excessive 6:5 12:12

excitement 6:4 12:12 35:7 44:10

47:22 69:4

exclude 90:3

excuse 33:2 100:12

excused 83:1 96:5

exercising 19:24

exist 10:8

existed 37:24

existence 79:16

existing 6:6 8:17, 19 10:4 12:3,6 13:14 17:24 20:3 36:2 37:23 45:6

exists 5:23 6:12 27:6 33:15 36:5

exotic 23:19 27:8 71:13 78:19

expand 80:14

expect 31:1 75:5

expectation 27:24

expected 15:12

experience 14:24 15:19 80:15

expertise 15:20

explanation

31:12 33:6 47:17 63:19

explicit 10:18 12:22 14:16 15:9, 10 21:13 27:1.16 34:7 50:24

exploit 14:14 15:4

exploitation

14:10,12 17:6 21:16

exposed 15:8 16:14 50:24 56:4 57:11

exposing 15:22, 23 16:8

exposure 14:16 92:4

expressing 81:2

expression 25:6 38:21 41:8 47:8 54:8,19 55:2 85:16

extravagant 54:15

extremely 72:15 90:19,21 91:17

F

facility 91:14

fact 10:4,13 42:1 77:11 78:15 79:25 97:23

facts 97:8 98:6

failures 83:13 86:13

fall 11:21 48:24 49:15

fallen 49:2

families 43:17

family 16:11 42:22 76:10

family-friendly 73:23,24,25 91:8

family-oriented 72:8,10

famous 52:7

fascism 42:13

fashion 41:9

favor 4:8,9 55:25 58:25 59:4 60:23 63:24 95:20 96:7 100:11,14

fear 42:14

fearmongering 83:11

features 27:7 71:12 89:2,3

February 30:4 32:4 62:4

federal 40:21,23 41:3 42:8

fee 66:24 82:5	food 43:3	fun 22:19	42:16
100:1 feel 7:20 11:1,10	football 49:17 54:14,24 55:1	future 98:10	governor 25:1 92:15,16
18:5 19:23 47:4 55:11 57:25 80:4	forbidden 76:17	G	grabbing 84:3
feet 55:24	forced 15:11 42:3	G-STRING 58:9	grandkids 27:25
fellow 31:3	74:11	game 49:17 54:24	graphic 8:12
felony 8:15	forcing 85:10	55:1	15:15 20:20 27:1 55:23
felt 56:14 74:22,23	foremost 88:7	games 54:15	great 75:6 84:8
female 23:17,24	Forever 14:11	Garden- 33:2	greater 14:14
24:24 26:23 27:9	form 4:1 6:3 12:11 22:8 28:3 35:6	Gardenhire 3:12,	18:2
67:19 68:2 71:14 75:24 76:2,3,22	41:8 54:18,23	22 4:4,12,16 7:3, 19 8:25 10:23	grinding 16:7
78:1,10,17 79:7	69:4	11:23 13:17,20	19:16
80:1,11 94:14	forms 14:11	16:22 17:10 18:3, 19 19:6,19 20:5,8	groomed 15:1
fighting 47:7	forum 38:23	21:1,17,20 24:16	grooms 14:17
file 40:12	forward 80:19	25:10,19 26:3,13 28:11 29:10,11	gross 26:19
filed 50:15,16,18 74:1 86:3	found 6:6,7 12:4, 13 35:13 41:1	30:21 31:9,10,14	ground 19:17 88:24
filter 92:1	44:13 60:9 69:7 74:15	33:3,4	group 24:3 50:14
final 30:15 31:5	founder 14:10	general 3:2,8 30:2,9 32:2,9 53:3	54:14 57:7 58:4 73:23 74:2 83:10
32:18 35:20 63:4, 6	frankly 36:17	62:2,8 90:22 99:2,	85:19
find 53:10 54:10	free 7:20 25:6	8 genitalia 16:5,7	grown 16:3 56:2
86:25 88:24 97:21	freedom 14:11	18:16 19:16	guess 20:18
fine 36:25 95:18	19:25 47:8 51:8	gentleman 26:18	79:18 89:4 92:9
fines 24:21	85:15	Geraldine 76:14	guest 22:12
finish 69:13 75:17	Freeman 79:2,3 81:9,10 82:13,14	94:15	guys 38:10
finished 25:12	friend 44:5 50:15	giant 25:7	gyrate 54:16
fits 82:7	59:21	gift 16:20	gyrating 16:8
fixes 36:19	friendly 16:11	girls 24:3	Н
Flip 76:14 94:15	friends 42:22	girls-only 38:7	
floor 7:20 30:2,7	front 4:6 9:25 16:6	give 19:3,10 20:19 39:14 54:11 86:12	Hairspray 24:7
31:1 32:2,7 62:2,7 69:14 97:7 99:2,7	18:16 19:17 27:20 41:22 56:10,14,20	giving 20:20,22,	half 9:13
Florida 92:1,2	57:2 58:6 65:25 66:8,19 74:6,10	24	hand 17:13 98:16
focus 57:22	75:4 77:22 79:23	glad 4:21 8:7	hands 7:8
folks 47:7 51:7	91:24	go-go 23:18 27:8	hang-up 80:11
73:12 74:9 77:21 81:1 88:8	frustrating 23:11	71:13 94:12,20 goal 87:20	happen 24:18 70:23
follow 79:5	full 41:16	good 3:15,16	happened 19:5,
follow-up 9:1	full-time 22:11	36:17 42:15	14 92:12
28:13	fully 23:12	governance	happy 30:25 31:

14 78:7,8	highlights 41:24	idea 94:13	incorporates 95:2
	hips 54:17	identified 10:4	
harm 17:7 54:2	history 42:11,12	identify 14:4	increased 92:16
harmed 14:9	86:7	identity 85:11	increases 15:4
harmful 5:20,22 6:2 8:20,23 12:7,9	hits 75:19,22	IDS 28:7	independent 100:4
35:1,3,4,16 36:3,5 37:24 44:9 45:1	hold 7:8 46:8 78:17	illegal 26:8,10 51:1 58:13 66:1,	individual 74:8
46:14,18 53:25	Hollywood 52:7	18 67:5	76:7 90:4
65:6 68:23 69:2 71:1,10 73:18	home 26:21	images 15:10,15	individual's 11:14 20:2
80:25 82:6 83:17 84:15,18 93:16,21	honor 30:25 31:3 hope 42:12 47:6	immediately 98:20,21	individuals 19:24
94:8	55:19 56:5 70:1	impact 24:11	indoors 74:11,25
harming 84:24 harms 14:17	82:22	43:20	indulgence 9:3 45:16
21:12	hoping 40:18 horrible 42:23	impersonating 80:1,4 94:15	inefficient 41:7
Harris 70:18,20	host 72:8	impersonation	inflation 43:2
72:3,4,23,24 73:6, 7,15,16 75:9,10	hosted 23:11	23:18,21 impersonator	information 98:17
Harry 24:5 87:12 89:16	hotels 24:14	23:24 24:23,24	inherently 41:12
	hours 98:12	67:19 68:2	injunction 74:1,
hate 42:24 55:13 87:2 90:5 93:10	house 10:1 62:2,	impersonators 24:10 27:9 71:14	25
95:4,5,7 98:1	7,13 63:10,17,21, 24 69:13 76:16	75:25 76:2,3,23	injurious 85:15,
hatred 85:12	83:18 92:15 97:6	78:1,10,18 79:7 80:11	16,17,19
hats 7:11	99:14,20	implemented	injury 58:7
health 17:4 43:2 86:9	Houston 37:14	20:4	innocence 14:23 95:9
healthy 14:18	Hulsey 63:12,14, 20 64:7	important 45:13 98:2	inside 7:11
hear 87:24	human 23:22 85:8	improper 50:25	insight 26:11
heard 9:6 12:18 36:12 93:6 94:24	hundred 48:12 52:1	impugn 98:20	insists 47:14 49:11
hearing 55:13 76:25 91:4	hundreds 9:23 36:12 86:1	inappropriate 13:1 27:20 84:1 91:12 92:5,8	instances 9:12 13:11 73:17
heart 85:12	hurts 42:24	inappropriately	instigating 85:18
hearts 42:17	husband 41:18	84:4	institutional 49:
heavily 10:10,19	44:19	incidents 58:5	insult 58:7
heed 15:21	hypothetical 26:22 44:3	include 16:3 24:2	intend 75:4
	hypotheticals	94:7 included 67:15	intended 49:11, 14 87:20
held 4:24,25 7:12			1.07.20
held 4:24,25 7:12 33:17,19 64:16,17 68:7,8 75:4	49:12	72:1 89:9	intent 45:10,14
33:17,19 64:16,17	49:12 	72:1 89:9 includes 71:15 including 22:11	intent 45:10,14 50:10,11,12 86:25 intention 55:8

intentional 59:24 60:7 97:7 interest 12:16 34:11,15 35:15,16 44:16 60:12 65:9, 12 69:1,9 interested 76:25 interesting 87:24 88:23 interests 6:9.10 93:24 interns 84:1 interpretation 25:8 53:14 interpretations 17:24 98:5 intolerance 95:5 Introduce 22:1 introducing 53:24 investigating 10:2 92:3 involve 50:4 94:11.19 involved 37:15 involves 44:10 involving 82:3 Iran 42:2 irrelevant 41:1 isolated 58:5 **issue** 9:7 52:2 53:9 55:13,17,18 57:22 75:19,22 83:16 85:24 86:3 97:2,20 98:2 issues 9:9 43:1 54:1 86:7,10 Item 30:14 99:13

items 48:5

jacket 67:11

J

Jackson 74:2 January 3:4 Jennisue 15:6 Jessen 15:6 Jessen's 15:19 iob 53:1 **jobs** 52:23 **Johnson** 3:9,13, 14 4:18,20 8:4 9:11 11:24,25 26:15,16 30:10, 14,17,18 31:16,17 32:10,15 33:10,12 37:18,19 38:12,13 39:17,18 40:7,8 43:23.24 46:3.4 52:20 53:19 55:5 59:16,18 65:21,22 66:5,6,16,17 67:7, 8,17,18,25 68:1 69:12 70:4,5 85:6 99:14,17,18 **Jones** 83:2,4 84:7,11,12 86:16 journal 82:25 96:4 **judge** 56:15 judicial 47:20 judiciary 3:2,7 32:19,25 33:13 jury 13:12 47:22

Justice 63:10,17 K **key** 38:19,22

kids 9:25 11:6 12:9 27:25 28:8 36:8.15 37:1 38:24 46:20 51:13 54:24 55:1 75:1

Kill 42:18 kilt 41:18 44:20 **kissed** 41:21 **kissing** 44:19 knew 86:3 knowing 16:9 **Knox** 65:21 91:7, 18 Knoxville 24:6 **Kyle** 28:18,19 51:18,19,25 53:18 L labeled 24:10 lacks 35:21 69:21

Ladies 54:14 laid 66:12 **Lamar** 7:17,21 9:1.2 10:24.25 13:4,18,19 17:16, 17 18:4,5,20,21 19:2,9,20,21 20:6, 7,13 28:21,22 **Landon** 14:2,7

20:12 language 6:11 12:7,20 27:11 48:4 72:14 75:23 76:22 77:7 78:16 80:9 87:4.5.9.13. 19 89:1,24 90:1,6, 19

larger 10:9

law 4:23 5:2,12,24 7:24 10:3,14 11:2, 9,14,18,22 13:2,8 17:9,20,24 33:16, 18,20 34:3,14,17 40:4,10,13,14 41:4,6,23 42:8 51:10 52:1 56:12, 18 57:4 58:11

36:18 39:14,20,21 64:15,19,25 65:11 67:21 68:2,6,9,16 72:25 73:8,13 74:16,18 75:5 76:20 77:6,10,14 78:3,10 79:22

Lawrence 76:6 laws 20:3 22:25 24:12 41:11 51:9 65:7,24 68:24

73:3,12 88:25

81:14 82:8

lawsuit 52:4 53:4 lawyer 52:6 89:2

lays 81:22

leader 3:12 4:18 7:22 11:23 15:6 26:15 30:16 31:16 37:12,17 38:11 39:16 40:6 43:22 46:2 52:20 53:19 54:11,20 55:5 59:16 83:1 99:16

leadership 85:21

learn 16:21,24 learned 15:7 75:16

led 10:1 13:11 42:5

lederhosen 66:7

Lee 25:1 left 77:14 **legal** 74:17

legally 16:16

legislation 25:4 27:12 41:5 42:24 43:19 45:13 47:5 48:10 51:5 53:24 55:14 70:24 71:3 74:14 85:14 86:24 87:1,2 90:9 99:2,8

legislative 30:2,8 32:2,8 45:10 62:2,

legislature 75:7 92:7

legislatures 80:13

legs 16:6 18:15 19:17 54:17

letting 49:8

kind 7:6 9:7 26:6 36:24 58:12

level 41:3 location 5:16 74:14 76:23 77:15 60:21 61:4 99:16 65:3 68:19 74:21 80:18 86:10 90:10 100:6.24 Leveraging 91:21 94:3 42:14 locations 5:10 meaning 71:19 34:2 64:17,24 **makes** 3:18,23 lewd 23:3 38:22 means 6:2 12:10 68:14 78:2 4:19 30:22 32:20 83:25 27:7 34:14 35:5 33:5 64:13 77:12 lodged 93:19 47:20 65:11 71:8, **LGBT+** 42:21 79:22 97:22 9 82:2 88:12 **London** 13:22 **LGBTQ** 72:8 85:4 makeup 23:24 mechanism 97:4, long 77:17 54:16 24 **LGBTQ+** 22:6 longstanding **making** 16:6 21:8 **LGBTQIA+** 55:14 media 18:25 24:1 75:17 76:1 81:6 88:10 license 22:24 male 23:17,24 looked 77:21 meet 46:18 70:25 licensed 5:4 27:9 71:14 75:24 loophole 10:5,13 76:1,3,22 78:1,9, meets 36:1 33:22 64:21 68:11 Lord 42:11 17 79:7 80:1,11 megastar 24:5 licensing 48:14 89:3,6 94:14 lose 14:23 lifelong 15:19 **member** 30:24 **males** 89:5 lot 34:22 38:19 31:3 61:1,2 83:21 **light** 79:8 man 56:4 93:12 95:22,23 55:12 59:22 60:4 limited 17:11 31:1 67:9 89:22 96:10,11 97:11 mandate 92:17, 100:17,19,20 lots 49:14,16 18 lines 47:15 79:6 member's 97:11 manufacture love 17:2 86:25 lip-syncing 23:13 86:11 members 3:15 87:1 95:8 liquor 22:9,24,25 4:11,14,22 5:19 manufacturing Lundberg 28:23, 24:11 7:4 13:3 17:15 83:12 24 29:17 30:19 32:17 list 23:25 26:6 March 99:4 35:24 42:23 44:1 42:19 98:16,18 М 46:6 59:6.8.19 marketed 16:11 listed 73:25 77:4 83:23 91:3 Marsha 85:5 97:3 listen 35:9 **Madam** 28:17,18, 21,23,25 29:2,4,6, Martin 76:6 memorized 67:23 listened 55:9 8,10,12,14 Memphis 24:3 **Massey** 37:6,7,11 **listing** 78:18 made 22:10 34:8 45:19 52:10 38:2,3,17,18 literally 77:16 49:21 55:10 60:5 material 15:9 men 7:10 56:20 80:9 86:4 88:8 91:15 93:6 97:6 mental 17:4 materials 49:4 literary 35:22 60:17 69:21 Madea 52:8 mentioned 8:21 matter 6:5 35:8 12:17,18 26:22 42:1 44:12 47:15 litigations 48:2 Madonna 87:12 80:22 69:6 77:11 78:14 litter 43:3 mainstream 98:8 message 21:15 18:25 live 45:23 mayor 74:3 91:13 met 35:11,21 major 11:6 24:19 livelihood 53:5 49:23 **Mcnally** 30:16 majority 61:5 31:6.13.21 32:13. lively 22:19 **mic** 14:5 77:17 83:13,20 21 33:1,8 37:5,9, lives 42:2 86:14 96:16 microphone 7:18 17 38:1,11,16 39:11,16,23 40:6, 14:6 28:20 70:16 livings 22:11 **make** 8:21 13:9,13 15 43:10,22 45:3 78:21 82:24 14:5 18:11 28:8 **Lizzo** 87:12 89:16 46:2,21 47:9 33:14 34:6 36:19 Miller 94:4,5,11 51:17,24 53:17 local 73:23 74:4 52:1 57:6.24

59:25 67:10 72:17

87:5 90:13

55:3 58:19 59:7,9

million 22:8,13

millions 53:4 moment 5:21 music 41:9 89:20 0 18:15 21:14 72:16 mimic 16:14 **muster** 90:12 momentarily mind 9:3 15:10 oath 85:14 30:20 Ν 25:7 objection 31:22 **Momma** 76:9 mindsets 52:19 61:6 62:25 95:17 narrowly 51:9 monetary 16:20 96:17 101:2 minor 24:22 36:3 Nashville 10:9 37:24 44:9 45:2 **money** 17:1 obligation 93:11 22:5 24:20 55:21 46:14,18 70:24 20:21,22,24 21:10 79:10 82:18 85:25 obscene 8:24 71:1 88:24 monitoring 23:8 87:17 41:2 42:7 47:1 minors 5:20.22 50:25 54:12.23 moral 53:11 nation 52:24 6:2,10 8:21,23 66:8,19 70:9,10 12:7,10,16 27:21 morality 53:2 national 22:16 88:4 94:10,17 35:2,3,5,16,20,23 morally 17:8 obscenity 5:23 **nature** 22:21 36:5 44:16 54:1,2, 34:12 65:8 68:25 6:13 7:25 9:20 12 60:12,15,18 morbid 6:10 79:11 12:3 13:16 17:24 65:6 68:20,23 12:15 35:16 44:15 34:14 35:1 36:6 69:2,10,20,23 60:12 69:9 Nay 59:8 40:21,23 45:7 71:11 75:4 80:25 **morning** 93:7,19 46:11,13,24 52:16 **nays** 4:13 61:3 82:6 83:17 88:4 53:14 65:7,10,24 96:1,14 100:23 93:16,22 94:8 mother 14:10 68:24 83:16 84:14 **Nazis** 42:9 minute 7:6 77:24 motion 3:20,23 occurred 16:10 31:7 32:22 33:9 needed 17:25 **minutes** 17:12 37:3 61:6 65:16, occurs 5:10 34:1 91:23 21:25 57:18 17,19 78:25 96:18 64:24 68:14 neighbor's 48:21 mirror 83:19 100:6,10 101:2 offense 8:9,13,15 newly 5:22 8:16 mischaracterizat move 4:2,4 30:20 offensive 13:5,6 ion 26:19 59:22 31:4.11 32:17 **news** 84:25 35:18 60:13 69:18 62:20 63:3,17 mischaracterizin 93:25 **Newsies** 38:7,8 100:5 **g** 60:6 offer 24:14 newspaper 38:8 moved 74:25 misdemeanor 76:18 offers 23:10 night 24:4 50:2 8:14 76:19 movements old-fashioned **normal** 14:18 misrepresent 76:11 7:7 59:25 normalized 15:12 moves 31:14 **Oliver** 53:21.22 misrepresentatio normalizing 15:2 62:23 63:6.21 open 38:23 39:2 **n** 97:8,23 21:16 79:11 **movie** 76:12 53:14 54:18 misrepresenting **notes** 76:1 movies 48:5 76:4, opened 22:9 60:6 **nudity** 6:4 12:11 10 missing 82:21 opening 10:6 23:2 35:7 39:2 moving 86:16 44:21 60:8 44:10 69:4 81:14 misstatement multiple 71:16 operate 24:12 97:6.23 **number** 9:12 14:1 85:24 90:20 30:14 31:11,14 misstatements operation 23:9 32:24 63:11,18, murder 41:6 98:2 operations 23:9 21,25 76:9,16 murdered 41:4 misstating 98:13 93:25 94:21,23 opinions 27:19 99:13,15 100:15 Murfreesboro mistaken 40:20 opponents 59:23 101:1 19:14 55:21 Mocking 42:18 numerous 50:3 opportunity **murky** 11:2 20:19 molester 83:22 53:23

oppose 4:12 25:9 **parent** 16:15 47:15 48:19 50:11 permitted 16:16 42:3 50:21 52:18.20 55:15 perpetrators 56:3,9 57:7 58:5 **opposed** 59:1,7 parental 18:17 15:16 67:9 70:14 83:10 60:24 64:2 95:21 85:7,11,15,16,17, parents 9:24 perplexing 40:19 96:9 100:16 11:21 18:5,11,14 19 88:14 90:4 Perry 52:7 55:16 opposition 87:25 54:25 98:13 56:23 76:9 **people's** 41:25 oral 55:23 park 10:21 28:1 person 6:7 8:11 50:20 57:11 70:13 36:7 48:22 77:25 order 69:12 70:23 9:18 12:13,24,25 percentage 88:19 93:2 95:11 parliamentary 13:5.6.23.24 92:16 97:20 35:13 40:13 44:6, ordered 62:25 13 56:6,7 60:10 part 22:10 45:14 perfectly 11:21 ordinances 74:4 69:7 71:19 79:21, 99:22 perform 11:6 24:7 25 86:2 ore 22:15 54:14,21 56:20 participate 14:20 pertaining 3:10 57:1 organizations 46:1 30:10 32:10 62:11 79:9 performance 99:11 parties 12:20 73:3 oriented 76:10 5:17 6:6 9:25 Parton 24:23,24 pervasive 16:2 24:22 34:18 35:9 26:24 originally 45:1 41:10 44:13 48:18 Phd 16:13 49:10 51:14 65:4 Orpheum 52:10 **parts** 71:2 **phrase** 77:13 67:2 68:21 69:6 outfit 23:23 pass 13:2 75:7 71:16,24 72:7 **picked** 92:14 74:21 77:22 78:4 **outfits** 49:18 passage 30:21 **piece** 87:1 82:2 99:24 100:2. 31:4,7 32:17 63:3, outlaw 79:16 **pieces** 16:17 outlets 18:25 performances **passed** 77:17 **place** 5:7,14 6:18 4:24 5:19 9:14 outraged 9:24 80:13 96:17 99:21 9:15.25 10:8.15. 11:4,12 33:16 18,21 27:23 28:6 57:9 **passes** 29:15 34:10.12 45:19 34:7,19 36:15,20, overly 90:7 76:20 46:1 48:8 50:3 21,22,23 47:2 55:20 62:15 64:16 48:21,23 50:5 past 15:22 20:13 **overt** 39:2 65:5.8 67:9 68:6. 24:13 49:2 73:22 51:11 72:13 77:18 overtly 34:12 22,25 70:9,10,15 77:20 79:14 98:7,8 36:14 65:8 68:25 71:10,16 75:3 pastors 54:4 **places** 17:19 89:13 93:16 owned 33:19 23:17 36:10 48:12 patently 35:17 64:18 68:8 performed 20:16 55:21 60:13 69:18 93:25 27:20 72:20 placing 22:17 patience 53:13,15 Р performer 8:3,11 **plain** 87:18 88:13 16:19 19:15 20:23 pattern 15:25 89:24 90:1 43:15 58:9 paid 17:1 **pause** 5:21 planned 57:19 pandemic 14:12 performers 20:21 91:3 pay 45:24 22:12,15,21,22 panel 25:14 28:15 23:5,6,7,11,15 platform 86:13 payroll 22:13 24:11,21 50:4 parade 45:20 play 38:7,10 52:8 **peers** 13:12 55:22 57:1 82:10 paragraph 77:5,8 **plays** 52:7 76:4 penalty 8:6 34:18 81:24 performing 8:12 28:2 38:7,10 **point** 94:21,23 people 7:9 11:4, parameters 49:22 52:9 56:24 95:4 13,18 12:19 13:9 37:15 87:15 89:7 17:2 21:10 22:10 points 86:11 Pardon 7:16 24:8 27:19 42:6, performs 24:6 25 45:21,23 46:25

police 41:25 49:8 46:10 68:20 70:25 30:23 31:8 32:22 72:18 73:18 76:5 50:7 51:11 91:18 33:9 62:24 63:8. 77:25 79:22 86:9 presented 40:11 22 89:7 94:14 97:25 policies 42:2 presenting 6:15 property 5:1 6:18, publicly 33:19 **policy** 98:15 64:18 68:8 preserve 47:7 22 9:16 33:19 political 35:22 36:23 64:18 68:8 president 84:3 **punish** 8:2,3 60:18 69:22 86:11 prosecute 56:6 pretty 11:5 12:21 purpose 15:9 politically 42:14 35:25 51:9 prosecuted purposes 32:18 56:11 **pools** 89:5 prevailing 35:18 put 54:15 58:8 prosecution poor 86:9 60:13 69:19 76:22 92:9,10 13:11 52:16,19 popping 16:1 prevails 96:3 puts 51:10 78:20 prosecutor popular 24:14 prevent 5:5 33:23 40:11,12 56:14 37:13 38:6,9 population 60:2 Q prosecutorial 64:21 68:12 74:4, 5 75:2 88:3 13:3 pornographic quagmire 53:3 49:4 prosecutors preventing 15:20 quality 6:2 12:10 39:22 51:12 57:3 position 31:19 previous 26:5 35:5 69:3 positions 16:5 80:12 86:22 protect 17:25 queen 23:12 85:4 95:14,15,19 96:2 18:6 58:4 95:8 possibility 49:20 87:16 pride 19:4,14 protected 15:15 posted 20:18 **queens** 70:15 45:19,20 46:1 41:11 47:1 89:25 72:8 73:24 90:2 pounded 57:23 question 7:14 8:5.6 9:1.5 11:1 protecting 25:5 poverty 86:9 principle 75:6 19:7 20:12 26:1 56:2 88:7 89:23 powderpuff **private** 6:19,23 37:21 39:10 44:7 92:19.23 9:17 19:21 28:6 49:17 45:15 49:13 protective 15:25 36:25 58:18,20,23 70:1, power 50:7 6 75:17 78:11,13 problem 9:8 21:5 protects 17:20 pre- 35:14 79:18,20 81:12 57:12,15 23:20 75:25 79:23 90:23 93:19 83:8 predation 14:25 protesting 42:9 95:14.16.19 problems 42:25 predator 84:22 97:12,20 proud 22:15 95:9 **process** 98:22 predators 15:3 questionable **provide** 5:3 33:21 50:6 prohibit 23:2 64:20 68:10 91:5 predominant 87:14.16 5:13 34:4 65:1 questions 7:4,23 provided 67:1 68:17 9:3 17:15 21:21 prohibiting 87:13 100:3 25:13,21 28:14,15 89:1 predominantly provision 93:18 38:5 44:23 45:8 5:3 6:9 12:15 22:6 99:23,24 promoter 91:19, 46:6 51:22 96:3 33:21 35:15 44:15 prurient 6:9 12:15 60:11 64:20 68:10 quick 82:20 22:21 34:11,15 promoting 90:9 69:8 quote 73:23 85:4 35:15 44:15 60:11 prong 44:16 prepared 44:22 65:9,12 69:1,9 93:23,24 presence 9:15 **prongs** 35:17 R 72:20,21 79:24 **public** 5:1 6:18,22 **proof** 23:9 race 22:17 85:8 9:16 10:15,21 present 3:18 5:6 proper 4:1 31:7, 17:18 20:15 24:5 6:19,24 9:17 raise 17:13 98:15 18 32:22 33:9 27:23 28:1 36:7, 10:22 12:9 16:10 **raising** 51:13 15,23 47:2 48:16 properly 3:21 36:8,16 41:23

	1		
Rausch 91:17	37:21 44:21,25	22 79:1 80:7 81:8,	68:15 71:15 81:15
reach 43:14	67:21	19 82:12,25 84:6 86:15 87:21 88:17	requiring 4:23
read 5:24 6:12 8:7	reference 20:12	90:15,24 93:2	reread 53:13
12:4 34:23 37:23	referenced 12:8	95:11,15 96:2,15,	reregulated 34:2
44:1,17 45:1,6 60:2,3 71:11,25	referring 27:22	22 97:9,16 98:11	resolution 54:7
84:24 88:14 93:12	97:11	repeat 52:1	
94:22	reflect 83:1 96:4	replacing 99:23	respect 35:19 43:7 51:20 52:2
reading 88:11	refusing 74:4	report 54:3	57:21 60:15 69:20
ready 28:16	regard 98:4	reported 17:6	respond 57:25
real 55:13,17	regime 48:4	represent 45:19	97:14 98:19,21
84:21	regular 30:13	representation	response 4:15 7:17 28:19 50:17
reality 15:16	76:2	6:3 12:11 35:6	76:25
70:12	regulated 5:11	69:3	responsibility
reason 52:14	10:10,19 64:25	Representative	18:14 19:24
reasonable 9:18	68:15	29:1 62:10,19 63:2,14 64:11	responsible
12:24,25 27:24	regulations	65:17,21,22 66:3,	72:25 73:3,8
receive 9:22	48:14	4,6,11,15,17,21	rest 77:10
received 9:23	related 23:21	67:6,8,14,16,18, 20,24 68:1,4	
23:4 61:5 96:16	relative 8:17,20	69:11,16 70:3,5,	restaurant 5:15 34:5 36:8 65:2
recent 27:4	10:3 13:16 27:4 33:16 62:14	18,20 71:5 72:2,4,	68:18 82:18
recently 19:5,14		12,22,24 73:2,7,	restaurants
26:19	relativism 95:7	10,14,16,20 75:8, 10,12,14 77:2	24:14 79:9
recognize 27:18	remarks 60:8	78:6,8,23 79:2,3	restricted 5:5,16
recognized 21:2	remember 76:6	80:8 81:8,10,20	10:11 33:23 34:8
30:17 31:16 32:14	78:16	82:12,14 83:2,4	64:21 65:3 68:12,
33:3,10 37:6 38:2,	remind 92:13,21	84:6,11,12 86:15, 18,20 87:22	20
12,17 39:7,17,24	removal 67:3	88:17,20,21	restrictions 92:2
40:7,16 43:11,23 45:4 46:3,22	89:9	90:17,24 91:1	return 25:2
47:10 51:18 53:21	remove 67:9,11,	92:25 93:3,4 95:10,12,13 96:5,	revealed 41:16
55:6 58:16 62:18	12 89:9	25 97:18 99:10	revealing 11:8
63:13 64:8,10 70:19 83:3 86:19	removed 21:7	Representatives	review 45:12
90:3,16 96:23	removing 82:3	73:5 83:19	reviewed 48:6
97:5	renders 14:24	representing	revises 99:21
reconsider 61:7 96:18 101:3	renew 65:15,17	88:6	rewarded 21:10
record 8:8 76:8	78:25	Republican 92:15	rewards 16:19
97:15,25 98:8	renews 65:19	reputation 97:12	
Red 76:12,13	rep 62:17,22 63:5,	98:20	rewrites 63:16
redeeming 94:1	12,20 64:7 65:15, 18 66:2,4,10,15,	request 30:25	rewriting 36:4
reeding 26:8	20 67:6,13,16,24	31:3	rightful 42:22
reeks 94:25	68:3 69:11 70:3, 17 71:4 72:2,11,	require 66:12	rights 18:17 43:4
	22 73:1,5,9,14,19	required 5:11	45:25 70:13 81:2 85:17
refer 12:2,19	75:8,12 77:1 78:6,	34:2 64:24 66:13	
	1		1

rings 59:1 60:24 95:21 96:8 100:16,18

rise 47:13 83:6

risk 18:1

risking 42:2

road 51:7,15

Roberts 20:10,11 21:18,19 25:23, 24,25 26:5 28:13, 25 29:1,16 55:6,7 58:15

Robertson 59:21

role 52:8,9

roll 28:17 30:24 31:20

room 16:15 17:14 88:1

rose 3:23 4:5 29:2,3 74:1

rubbing 16:4 18:16 19:16

rules 13:25 48:14 49:1 97:4

run 25:11

Rupaul's 22:17

S

sadomasochisti

c 35:8 44:11 69:5

safety 7:1 65:13

sales 22:9

sat 55:9 56:9 57:17

scale 91:21

Scapegoating 85:18

scenario 40:3,4 54:11

scenarios 44:3

scenes 76:11

Schindler's

42:19

scholarship 54:22

school 38:6,7 49:18

scientific 35:22 60:18 69:22 94:1

search 83:7

seared 15:15

season 22:18

seats 92:14

seconded 31:8, 14 33:9 62:24 63:8,22

seconds 3:24 16:23 24:17 82:21

Secretary 28:17, 18,21,23,25 29:2, 4,6,8,10,12,14

secrets 15:13

section 34:21,24 71:23 75:22 81:24 93:13

seek 47:6

sees 24:22

segment 60:1

selective 52:15, 19

self-proclaimed 42:9

sellers 38:9

senate 3:2,7,8,17
4:22 30:2,7,9
31:4,7 32:2,7,9,
14,17,24 33:14
58:24 59:12 61:4
62:9,15,20,23
63:3,6 64:14 68:5
77:13 93:14 94:6
96:7,15,21 99:2,7,
9,13 100:11,12,24

senator 3:9,12, 14,22,23 4:4,12, 16,18,20 7:3,17, 19,21 8:4,5,25 9:2,11,23 10:23,

25 11:23.25 12:18 13:4,17,19,20 16:22 17:10,17 18:3,5,19,21 19:2, 6,7,9,19,21 20:5, 7,8,11,13 21:1,17, 19,20 24:16 25:10,19,23,25 26:3,5,13,16 28:11,18,19,21, 22,23,24 29:2,3,4, 5,6,7,8,9,10,11,16 30:10.14.16.18 31:6,9,10,13,17, 21 32:10,13,15,21 33:1,4,8,10,12 37:5,6,7,9,11,17, 19 38:1,3,11,13, 16,18 39:6,8,11, 13,16,18,23,25 40:6,8,15,17

13,16,18,23,25 40:6,8,15,17 43:10,12,22,24 45:3,5 46:2,4,21, 23 47:9,11 51:17, 19,24,25 53:17, 18,21,22 55:3,4,6, 7 58:15,16,17,19 59:7,9,16,18

60:21 61:4 99:14, 16,18 100:6,24 **senators** 7:14

sending 21:15 50:9

sense 76:23 87:25 88:2,6

sentiments 86:23

service 25:18

session 14:3 25:20 29:18 30:2, 8 31:23 32:2,8 61:8 62:2,7 98:23 99:2.8

set 13:25 49:1,3 74:5 91:8

settings 10:15

sex 12:23 15:5 16:5 28:2 55:23 56:9,21 57:2 58:6

Sexton 62:17,22 63:5,12,20 64:7 65:15,18 66:2,4,

10,15,20 67:6,13, 16,24 68:3 69:11 70:3,17 71:4 72:2, 11,22 73:1,5,9,14, 19 75:8,12 77:1 78:6,22 79:1 80:7 81:8,19 82:12,25 84:6 86:15 87:21 88:17 90:15,24 93:2 95:11,15 96:2,15,22 97:9, 16 98:11

sexual 6:4 12:11, 12 14:12,18,20, 24,25 15:11,12,20 16:18 17:6 21:11, 16 23:2 34:12 35:7 36:14 37:15 38:22 39:3 44:10, 11 47:22 52:6,11 54:7 65:8 67:3 68:25 69:4,5 71:25 79:11 82:3 88:4 89:8 91:11 92:4 93:24

sexuality 16:25

sexualization 14:9,15 15:3

sexualized 14:22 15:1 67:15

sexualizing 17:2,

sexually 8:12 10:18 12:22 14:13 15:4,8,10,24 16:6 27:1,16 49:21 50:5,24 54:4 84:20

Shakespeare's 50:2

shame 84:4

shame-based 15:13

shameful 6:9 12:15 35:16 44:15 60:12 69:9

Shanaynay 76:7

share 26:11

shared 15:6

Shelby 44:5	58:6 91:11	spanking 16:8	30:9 32:9 62:9
sheriff 56:5	simulation 92:3	speak 14:6	99:9
sheriffs 58:11	singing 37:14	speaker 4:2	spreading 16:5 18:15 19:17
shirts 89:6	single 44:24 71:16	30:13,19 31:11,18 32:16 33:5,13,20	squat 54:17
short 23:5 49:2,19		34:16,20 35:24	stake 85:3
shouting 69:13	sir 17:13 31:20 53:16 76:25	37:2,7,11,20 38:3, 14,18 39:9,19	stand 44:19,21
show 19:25 20:16 22:17 40:24,25	sisters 85:8	40:1,9,18 43:8,12, 25 44:22 45:5,15	88:3 90:7,23 95:9
73:24 91:7,8,10,	sit 16:16	46:5,23 47:12	standard 36:2 40:21,23 46:18
16,21,25	sitting 55:24 76:1	49:10 50:15,19 51:16,19 53:22	47:18,19 48:15
showed 56:4 91:10,15	situation 67:11	55:8 58:14,17	standards 6:8
showing 79:12	situations 40:25	59:18 60:8 62:15, 20 63:3,15 64:5,	10:17 12:14 35:14,18 41:2,12
•	Skelton 76:12,13	12 65:14,23 67:20	44:14 52:4 53:11
shown 15:17 23:15	skin 23:15	68:4 69:17 70:2,	60:11,14 69:8,19
shows 18:8 22:19	skip 71:23	21 71:6 72:13,16 73:3,11,21 75:11,	star 42:19 52:7
23:9 42:10 50:17	•	15 77:3 78:24	55:16
51:4,6 53:8 54:9	skirt 41:20	79:4 80:8 81:21	Starbuck 13:22
85:9	skirts 49:19	83:5,24,25 84:13, 16 86:21 87:23	14:2,7,8 16:24 17:22 18:13,23
sic 17:16 22:20	skyrocketing	88:16,22 90:14,18	19:4,8,13 20:1
45:23 48:11	17:4	91:2 92:24 93:5 95:13 97:1,10,19	21:2,3
side 42:11,12 83:9,17,23 84:2	slate 42:24	98:10 99:19	start 49:8 53:2
86:6 98:12	small 50:21 58:4 87:8	speaking 55:8	started 78:2
signing 37:12	smart 18:6,8	91:3 98:4	state 16:1 18:24
signs 7:12	solely 23:21	specific 19:3,11 45:8,17 48:13	22:8,15 45:7 46:14 47:8,21
similar 27:9 71:14 77:9 80:22	solid 90:21	49:1,3 50:5 56:13	48:13 49:1,5 50:8, 18 51:10 53:4
Similarly 28:5	solution 83:7	specifically 12:6 19:10 45:22 47:3	54:4 55:22 56:19 73:4 75:6 79:14
simple 46:20	solve 9:8 42:25	49:5 75:24	92:2
47:14,16,24 87:25 88:13,15 98:6	somebody's	spell 52:25	state's 65:7 68:24
•	53:5	spend 53:4	state-level 41:5
simply 5:8 6:16, 21 10:16 27:15,23	someone's 98:17,20	spending 74:7	stated 64:13
28:7 33:25 55:18 57:2 64:22 68:13	songs 37:14	spoke 76:22	80:20 85:6
79:24	Sophisticated	spoken 57:20	statement 15:7 37:20 93:8
simulate 14:20	54:13	sponsor 10:1 25:22 26:1 31:12,	statements 75:18
16:18 57:2	sort 45:12 47:1,16 48:3 49:8 50:1	15 33:6 37:8,9	93:6
simulated 23:2 55:23 56:21 67:2	97:15	39:9,11,13 40:2,3, 22 43:8,19 47:14,	states 24:13 51:5
71:24 82:2 89:8	sounded 7:23	25 49:10 50:13,16	statute 5:23 6:13,
99:25	sounds 9:6 11:13	57:16 63:19 75:20	17 9:20 10:4 12:3, 24 13:14 27:6
simulating 12:23 16:5 28:2 56:9	Southern 54:5 84:20	86:4,21 87:4 sponsored 3:9	36:3,6 44:9 45:6, 11,14,18 46:11,13
	04.20	_	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

ı		1	<u> </u>
52:16	subtract 27:14	taking 5:7,14	94:19 99:2,8
statutes 20:3	suddenly 57:13	9:15,25 34:7 36:15 47:2 53:1	term 5:22 34:13
statutory 48:3	suffering 86:8	89:19 95:6	35:1 36:5 65:10 71:12 81:18 93:17
stay 84:7,9	suggestive 49:21	talk 9:7 13:22	terms 8:16 94:3
staying 84:16	50:6 76:11	44:19 48:5 53:16 83:6 89:22	terribly 37:1
Stevens 3:23	suit 41:16	talked 17:19	test 94:4
29:4,5	suitable 35:20 60:15 69:20	27:17 84:3 92:16	testified 26:18
Stonewall 85:5	summer 77:20	talking 17:18 19:15 55:14 74:17	testify 16:15
stop 19:24 74:10 stories 42:17	Sunday 23:16	talks 25:1 38:20	testimony 25:16
	79:10		26:6
story 15:17	super 48:13	target 70:10	tests 95:2
straight 77:10	support 7:2 28:10	targeted 47:3 49:6	thankful 91:17
street 24:5 48:22 81:3 89:14,15	42:25 60:20 65:13 95:10	targeting 50:14	Theater 20:17
strengthen 56:18	supported 86:2	70:11 86:23	theaters 24:6
strings 42:13	supporting 39:5	tattoo 38:25	76:4 Theatre 91:9
strip 16:17	supposed 51:8	taught 15:13	theatrical 22:20
stripper 79:8	Supreme 94:5,10,	taxes 22:9 45:24	
88:25	18 95:2	Taylor 13:24 21:23 22:3,4	themes 16:2
strippers 23:18 27:8 71:14 78:19	surfaced 9:14 36:9 91:10,15	21.23 22.3,4 24:18 25:17 29:6,	thing 7:5 27:3 47:24 57:14 70:11 75:16 77:24 82:20
stripping 16:4	surprise 47:13	TBI 91:17	things 11:20
67:11 91:11 92:4	surrounding	TCA 56:17	12:17,23 16:10
strong 56:13 57:4	34:14 65:11	team 74:18	26:6,7,10 38:21 45:11 48:6 49:14
structured 75:2	surveyor 15:5	Tech 20:13 55:20	50:5 55:13 66:12,
students 54:21	swimming 89:5	Tech's 20:15	18 67:14 70:8,22 84:14 88:8,9
stuff 57:12	swimsuit 41:14	television 22:16	93:22 94:12,21
Styles 24:5 87:12 89:16	sworn 85:13	telling 50:11	98:8
subject 24:21	systems 86:10	54:20 56:25	thinking 67:8 81:5
34:17 48:13	Т	tells 87:11	thinks 47:23
subjecting 16:3		ten 24:20	Thirty 16:22 24:16
subjective 17:8,	t-shirt 89:10	Tennesseans 25:4 79:17 82:22	thought 56:1 91:5
subjectively 54:9	table 13:25 61:7	83:14 86:8,13	thoughts 41:25
89:20 90:5	tabled 96:18 101:3	Tennessee 3:2,8	thousand 74:8
submit 35:25	tailored 51:9	19:2,10,14 20:13, 15 22:24,25 23:6	thousands 36:12
subsection 93:20	tainted 98:1	30:2,8 32:2,8 34:13 36:10 39:4	threatens 47:5
subsequent 8:14	takes 10:8 36:20	45:24,25 48:19	threats 84:21
substitute 62:20, 23	60:16 87:5,6,7	55:20 56:19 58:13 62:2,8 65:10 91:9	three-part 94:4

thunderously 16:19 21:7

Thursday 30:24 31:19,20,22

tight 36:1

time 7:4 11:12 13:21 17:14 21:6, 22 31:1 41:13 44:24 46:25 54:6 56:17 57:12 58:10 78:12 90:8

times 52:1 76:10 92:17

Tina 23:13

Titans 23:16

Title 48:10

tits 19:16

today 6:16 14:8, 15 26:21 27:13,15 83:6 90:8

Todd 33:2 62:10, 14,17,19,22 63:1, 2,5 64:9,11 65:17, 19 66:2,3,10,11, 20,21 67:13,14,20 68:3,4 69:15,16 71:4,5 72:11,12 73:1,2,9,10,19,20 77:1,2 78:14,22, 23 80:8 81:19,20 87:21,22 90:15,17 92:25 95:10 99:10

told 78:9 83:15 85:21

tolerate 58:12

tolerated 17:9

top 22:18

topless 27:7 71:13 78:18 89:3, 4,6 94:12,20

total 22:12

touching 91:12 92:5

tour 23:10

tourist 24:15

toxic 15:23

TPAC 24:7 56:24

traffic 43:3

trafficking 15:5

TRANSCRIPTIO

N 101:4

transgender 79:12,21,24 80:2

traumatizing 79:17

trend 15:23

trigger 35:20

triggers 35:10

troubles 79:6

true 86:25

truth 83:15

TSU 54:13

turn 14:5

turned 70:16 78:21 82:24

Turner 23:13

TV 76:2

Twelfth 50:2

twofold 52:2

Tyler 52:7 55:16 56:23 76:9

type 5:9 6:16,20 9:14,24 10:12,14, 20 28:5 34:1,6 35:12 36:14,19 46:9 49:9 64:23 68:13 74:5 76:18 77:22

types 43:20

U

U.S. 94:5,10,18

ultimately 13:12

unable 97:22

unacceptable

ı**nacc** 24:1 unbelievable 56:8

unclothed 67:4 82:4

unconstitutional 90:6

undergarments 16:9

understand 13:7 40:3 42:5 50:21 60:4 74:17 76:21 81:7,18 88:15 93:12 97:2

understanding 71:2 76:15

unfairly 78:20

unfortunate 97:21

UNIDENTIFIED 4:2

unintended 52:3

unique 15:18

university 20:16 55:21

unlawful 94:16

unreasonable 28:4 37:2

uphold 75:4,6

uprising 85:5

urge 85:20

USA 89:20

UT 49:25

V

vague 90:6

vagueness 87:14

values 35:22 60:18

vehicle 16:25

venue 6:19,23 9:17 28:6 33:24 34:8 36:21 68:18 89:7,14 **venues** 4:25 10:7 33:18 68:7 76:5

version 77:13 99:21

versions 47:20

versus 94:5,11

vet 53:16

video 9:13,19 20:18 57:8 91:10

videos 36:9 42:4, 5 55:19,20 56:9 91:15

view 5:17 48:17, 18,22,23 65:4 68:21

viewed 23:6

views 48:17

violate 70:23

violated 40:13

violates 40:10

violating 41:23 70:12 85:16

violation 8:9 9:19 34:16

violence 6:5 12:12 35:8 44:11 69:5 85:18

voice 59:2

vote 4:6 28:16 45:24 56:1 58:25 59:1,2,3,15 60:23, 24 61:2 85:14,21, 22 92:9,10,21,22 95:20,24,25 96:8, 9,12,13 100:12, 15,16,17,21,22

voted 61:1 95:22 96:10 100:19

voters 92:17,18

voting 43:8 47:3 92:22 95:19 96:6 100:10

vulgar 50:25

vulnerable 14:25 17:5

W	well-understood 34:13 65:10	yield 31:12 33:6 37:8 39:9 51:22 58:22	
wage 42:23	White 29:8,9	yields 37:10	
wages 86:9	Whitney 37:14	39:12 51:24	
waging 83:11	wigs 54:15	young 38:8,24	
wait 77:23 78:11	Wilson 76:14 94:15	youth 17:5 84:22,	
walk 51:15	win 86:11		
walking 81:3 89:15	window 23:13	z	
walks 24:22	witnesses 13:21 14:1 17:11	Zachary 90:25	
wanted 7:22 18:7	witnessing 21:12	91:1	
20:19 76:24 80:18 83:15	woman 56:24		
wanting 36:13	women 42:2 84:4		
44:18	women's 41:16		
war 83:11	wondering 20:21		
Warner 95:12,13	word 56:11 74:16,		
Wars 42:19 55:16	20		
wasted 90:8	word-for-word 77:6		
watch 15:11 16:17 58:7 89:13	worded 33:18		
watched 36:11	wording 77:5		
watching 9:18	words 80:22		
12:5 16:10 26:21 76:13	wore 41:18		
Waynesboro 83:21	world 10:20 36:13 48:15 49:7 50:9, 22 88:10		
ways 98:14	worms 25:7		
wear 7:10 11:20 42:3 49:18 54:15,	wrong 17:8 42:11, 12 79:20 97:3		
16 wearing 11:7	WWE 11:3 12:18		
41:7,20 44:20 66:7	Υ		
wears 23:23	Yarboro 47:10,11		
wedding 41:19 44:20	year 3:17 9:12 15:22 17:12 20:14		
week 13:25 43:16	22:10 45:20 72:9		
Weekly 84:24	73:22 83:21 87:17		
weighing 88:10	years 9:13 23:4 24:13 35:2 37:25		
welcoming 22:5 25:3	46:14,19 85:6		